

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Cop Sues After Complaint Filed

Transsexual Charges Brutality; Slapped with Suit at OCC Hearing

by Ray O'Loughlin

A Tenderloin transsexual who had filed a grievance with the city's Office of Citizens Complaints against two San Francisco police officers found herself on the receiving end of a lawsuit last week. One of the officers has accused her of making a "false and malicious complaint to my employer." He is demanding a \$200 settlement for "negative consequences arising from this complaint."

Police watchdogs, however, were quick to brand the action by the officer an attempt to hamper the work of the long-embattled OCC, a civilian review board established by voters in 1982 to investigate allegations of police misconduct.

"It's outrageous," said attorney John Crew who specializes in police problems for the American Civil Liberties Union. "It seems to be a bald attempt to intimidate this complainant and others," he said.

Randy Schell, client advocate with Community United Against Violence (CUAV), called the lawsuit a "glaring example of how the system can revictimize the victim."

"I believe it is a clear message to persons who have been victims of alleged police misconduct that to file a complaint means you do so at your own risk," said Schell.

FREAK'

The original incident occurred

in May of this year. While walking to a corner grocery in the Tenderloin, the male-to-female transsexual was stopped by police. She was taken to Central Police Station and charged with obstructing the sidewalk and resisting arrest. She has asked that her name not be published.

She accused police of using unnecessary force, hitting her, banging her head on the hood of a car, and fastening handcuffs so tight it caused her to bleed. During her ordeal, she said, police called her "thing" and "freak" and asked "if being a transsexual meant I was still queer."

All charges against her were subsequently dropped. So, she took her case to the OCC. Then on Dec. 2, as she walked into the hearing on her complaint, one of the SFPD officers handed her a Small Claims Court lawsuit. The claim is due to be heard today (Dec. 10).

According to Crew, police officers are allowed by law to sue

(Continued on page 14)



Today

GAY HOLIDAYS: Allen White gives a brief tour of Wonderland on page 19.

KIDNAPPED: Artie Wallace pleads for the return of his son, page 4.

DARING TO STAY ALIVE: Part II of the story on Project Inform, page 16.

THE LAST EMPEROR Was a Queen! See Steve Warren's review on page 29.

Forces Mobilizing To Defeat 'Son of 64'

**Target Anti-Gays for Defeat
Positive Counter-measure Proposed**

by Jay Newquist

A state-wide coalition was formed this week to defeat the "new" LaRouche-inspired quarantine ballot measure by a campaign of civil disobedience. According to the new strategy, politicians who urge quarantine for carriers of the AIDS virus will be targeted for defeat.

The as-yet unnamed coalition of gay rights groups say it will be pro-active rather than merely reactive to AIDS-related bigotry. A gay-sponsored initiative is also expected on the June 1988 ballot in California.

(Continued on page 3)

Agnos Wins City Hall In A Landslide

by Jay Newquist

Assemblyman Art Agnos romped to a landslide victory last night over Supervisor John Molinari with an awesome 70 percent of the vote to become mayor-elect of San Francisco. The final tally was 101,519 for Agnos and 43,566 for Molinari with a low 40 percent voter turnout.

The liberal Agnos won big in all neighborhoods, liberal, moderate or conservative alike. Molinari, on the other hand, lost even in his own Richmond district.

Agnos also won 65 percent of the absentee vote to 33 percent for Molinari.

The 49-year-old mayor-elect predictably swept the gay and lesbian community by a huge margin.

An overflow crowd of 2500 supporters were herded into the ballroom at the Meridian Hotel where Agnos support was evi-

denced by both VIPs arriving in stretch limos and the homeless carrying placards urging improved housing.

They listened to the son of a Greek immigrant as he spoke of his philosophy and agenda for the future of the city.

"What we offered in this campaign was a belief in a dynamic and creative San Francisco, ready to change for the better, ready to find common ground and take creative action," he said.

"We have succeeded because we knew that the indispensable element is a respect for the intelligence of people."

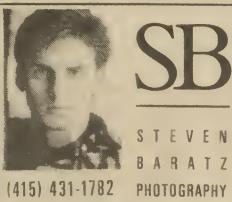
With his wife and two young sons at his side, Agnos urged populist themes with upcoming programs for "caring for new AIDS and health care challenges," affordable housing, jobs, youth services, and the homeless and disadvantaged.

A surprise olive branch was offered at 10:40 p.m. on Tuesday

(Continued on page 2)



Art Agnos and John Molinari joined hands in solidarity after Agnos' victory (Photo: S. Savage)



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Vigil Spared Eviction Again

Homeless Set Up Camp Nearby; Police Threaten To Evict All

by Allen White

The possible eviction of the ARC/AIDS Vigil by San Francisco Police was sidestepped Monday when homeless campers voluntarily left the United Nations Plaza area where the vigil is located. Drug use, public drunkenness and violence by about 25 people who pitched tents near the Vigil site caused police to announce plans for eviction.

"If it comes down to an eviction, it would happen to everyone living in the plaza," police spokesperson Jerry Senkir had said last weekend. That showdown would have forced the ouster of the ARC/AIDS Vigil.

The homeless campsite, unlike the ARC/AIDS Vigil, had been the subject of intense criticism by people in the area. One person at the ARC/AIDS Vigil said he saw a person brandishing a machete. Another person was observed urinating on the walls of the Federal Building while people walked through the area.

Last Thursday a worker from the Department of Public works was threatened with a knife when he attempted to wash down the bricks in the plaza. The cleaning is done to clean refuse left when the Farmer's Market uses the area.

Several people near the ARC/AIDS Vigil stated they were concerned they would be the target of violence from the people in the camp. The problem became more intense last week when violence was discovered in the Vigil area. Surprisingly, it turned out the violence appears to have been caused by a plainclothes police officer. The charges are being investigated.

The homeless group set up a camp with tents as a protest to city policies on treatment of homeless people. The protesters

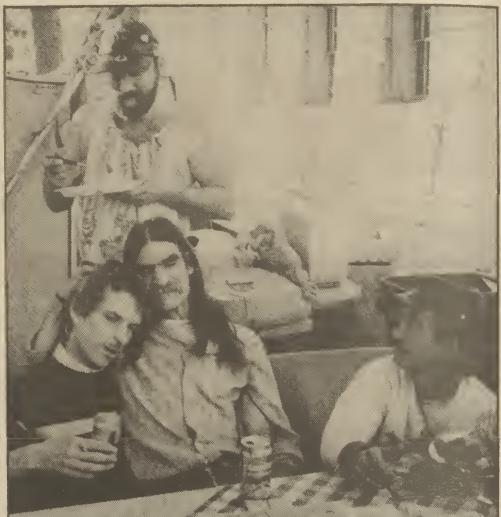
were offered emergency housing and refused. They said that housing offered by the city is worse than staying in the streets.

On Monday many of the homeless moved to another park area at Page and Buchanan where they were told to move by police.

The homeless protest had caused an awkward problem for people at the ARC/AIDS Vigil. "How can a protest movement move against another protest movement?" asked Vigil member John Belskus. He said the ARC/AIDS Vigil would have taken no action as long as the homeless maintained a "non-violent" protest.

Many of the people participating in the ARC/AIDS Vigil are supportive of the homeless protest. Belskus said that if the homeless were arrested at the United Nations Plaza site he would join them in their protest.

These actions Belskus said, would be done on a personal basis, not on behalf of the Vigil. Several people at the Vigil site are homeless themselves and claim the city has not been responsive.



Thanksgiving at the Vigil

(Photo: Rink)

The ARC/AIDS Vigil is substantially different in its organization and its purpose. The Vigil is a protest against the United States Government. The homeless are protesting against the City of San Francisco.

The ARC/AIDS Vigil has been supported by a resolution passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. That resolution, while not legally binding, gives the ARC/AIDS Vigil the support of the city.

Harvey Maurer said there had been many discussions with police about events in the United Nations Plaza.

On October 27, 1985, Steven Russell and Frank Burt chained themselves to the door in protest to the inaction of the Federal government in fighting AIDS. The building houses the San Francisco office of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Four demands were made by the protesters. They appealed to the federal government for \$500 million, not to be taken from ex-

isting social federal programs to find a cure for AIDS. They appealed to the government to speed clearance of drugs available in other countries.

There was also an appeal to Pres. Reagan to simply condemn AIDS related discrimination and to repudiate incitements of fear and hatred which have yet to be met.

As the vigil enters its third winter, none of these demands have yet to be met.

A fourth demand for federal recognition of people with ARC (AIDS Related Conditions) has been addressed. This action has sped up access to Medicare and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI).

Should there have been an attempt to close down the vigil, both Maurer and Belskus were strong in their commitment to again continue the vigil with people again chaining themselves to the Federal Office Building doors.

Molinari Ready To Work With Agnos

by Wayne Friday

Assemblyman Art Agnos, who has represented the city's east side in the state legislature for the past 12 years won a smashing victory over veteran Sup. John Molinari in Tuesday's San Francisco mayoral run-off election. Agnos, who was given little chance of winning the mayor's seat earlier this year, won such a convincing victory that he carried areas in all parts of the city. Both in liberal east side and the conservative west of Twin Peaks districts went for Agnos. He even won in Molinari's home Richmond District precinct.

Molinari, conceding defeat to Agnos shortly after the polls closed Tuesday, went to Agnos' Meridien Hotel election night party to personally congratulate the winner and to "pledge to Art my cooperation in making this city work."

Agnos told an overflow crowd of supporters that "we are going to govern this city with a can-do attitude," adding that "San Francisco can be proud that in 1987 we proved that politics can still be about people and belong to the people."

Molinari aide Dennis Collins said that the Molinari campaign had anticipated the results. He praised Molinari for his gracious election speech. "Our camp had seen the handwriting on the wall a few weeks ago, but we waged the best campaign we could," he said, adding, "Jack Molinari showed a lot of class in his concession speech."

Collins also said that Molinari has been and will remain "one of

Election

(Continued from page

night when a gracious John Molinari arrived from his own gathering of 350 supporters at Cat's to pay his respects to the new mayor.

Molinari said he didn't want to dwell on the sometimes rancorous campaign of the last 10 months, especially his unfortunately dark gloom and doom comments after the Nov. 3 election.

"I congratulate Art on a tremendous victory and a tremendous campaign," he said, earning respectful applause from the crowd. "We both love San Francisco and we care about its future. I pledge my cooperation in making this city great."

Molinari retains his long-time seat on the Board of Supervisors and his chairmanship of the key Finance Committee. He said he and the new mayor would meet shortly to solidify a spirit of cooperation for the next four years.

At the hotel the overflow crowd of supporters was lively, yet restrained. The election outcome was never in doubt, merely the

size of the plurality. People munched on a smorgasbord of ethnic cuisine that was donated from Greek, Indian and Italian restaurants, among others.

A well-run Agnos campaign was all organization and efficiency to the very end. Agnos himself paid tribute to his staff when he took time from the TV cameras to invite his campaign workers to step forward to receive a kiss or a handshake.

A roster of politicos were also present to acknowledge the changing of the guard over the reigns of power at City Hall.

They included Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, City Attorney Louise Renne (a one-time Agnos rival for mayor), Sups. Richard Hongisto, Wendy Nelder and Nancy Walker, Attorney General John Van de Kamp and Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco).

"This election is a crowning achievement," said Brown, who shook the room with his oration. "We've finally elected one of our own. This city will never be the same again."

"For the next eight years, it's our town, let's enjoy it," said Brown.

Tour Company Cancels Trip For Gay Couple

'Security Reasons' Cited for Not Allowing Men; Straight, Female Couples OK

by Mary Richards

When Ed Patrick won an all-expenses paid vacation to Mexico, he and his lover were all set to pack their bags and head south. But two weeks later the tour company, Trans-World Vacations from Tennessee, cancelled the deal. They said their policy is to allow only heterosexual couples or female couples but no male pairs. Trans-World even refused to refund his \$90 acceptance fee. Patrick took the problem to National Gay Rights Advocates for legal action.

Ed Patrick and Jim Zimmerman have lived together in Sebastopol for seven years. Patrick is part of a collective who own and operate the Alvarado Street Bakery in Rohnert Park and Zimmerman is an artist whose works show in a Chiradelli Square gallery. Although not involved politically, both men have been leading open lives the entire time they have lived together.

They were excited, Patrick says, in August when he received the postcard informing him he

had won a five-day, four-night vacation at the El Pueblo/Las Hadas Hotel in Manzanillo, Mexico. When he called the office of Trans-World Vacations to accept the trip, he was told he could also take advantage of a vacation for five nights and four days in Florida. All he would have to do was sit through a 90-minute time-share presentation in one of four areas: Orlando, Panama City, Daytona Beach or Ft. Myers.

NO REFUND

Patrick accepted the trips, and

paid a processing fee of \$89.95. Two weeks later he received the shocking eligibility rules for the vacation in Mexico.

The terms and conditions of the Mexico trip state: "Inasmuch as this is an offer for complimentary accommodations beyond the border of the United States, these are only made available for: (a) married or cohabitating hetero couples between the ages of 25 and 65 arriving together, or (b) two unmarried, unrelated women between the ages of 25 and 62 arriving together. Do not rely on oral representation different than

this printed material."

Patrick immediately contacted Trans-World to make them aware of his status as a gay man traveling with his lover. He was told that he would be unable to accept the trip to Mexico because of "security reasons." Trans-World even kept his \$89.95. They told him that he could receive a refund of his processing fee only if he had cancelled the vacation three days after accepting it. When Patrick pointed out that he hadn't received the stipulations regarding the trip until two weeks after that time, their representative suggested he try to sell the Mexico portion to another party.

Trans-World also informed Patrick that he and his lover could "get around" the fact that they were two men travelling together and still take advantage of the Florida portion of the vacation. Their representative then suggested that the lovers use first initials and last names on their registration forms.

Leonard Graff, legal director of NGRA in San Francisco, said, "In California this kind of promotion of a business limiting it to only heterosexual couples is clearly a violation of the Unruh Civil Rights Act. It would be under the basis of that Act that

we would sue. I feel very good about this case because we do actually have something in writing which is evidence of the business intent to discriminate."

Graff said that NGRA is working closely with a local law firm who expect to take the case. But, he said, "we're still doing some research. We don't charge off into court just because something appears to be wrong. We approach our litigation very carefully with the understanding that we're making a commitment that could easily take five to seven years to go through a court."

This case ties in with an "awareness program" that NGRA is currently pursuing in the area of family partnership rights. "This is just part of a program," Graff commented, "educating our own community about the vitality and validity of our relationships, as well as making a case for that proposition in the courts."

Patrick said he has received a tremendous amount of support from his associates, gay and non-gay, at the bakery cooperative where he works. They suggested he call the American Civil Liberties Union, which put him in touch with NGRA.

Proposition

(Continued from page 1)

At a meeting held in Los Angeles, some 50 gay and lesbian leaders convened behind closed doors to map out a strategy against the Lyndon LaRouche zealots who secured more than 500,000 signatures to qualify a repeat of Prop 64 in the November 1988 election.

Ralph Payne, one of the leaders against Prop 64 in 1986, said the coalition would first seek to raise \$40,000 to fund a survey to test the state electorate's attitudes towards AIDS health issues.

"We want to know who and what is out there, how public opinion has shifted towards the public health crisis," Payne said.

The specific gay initiative for the ballot, Payne continued, would likely be a call for tax credits for donations to organizations conducting AIDS research.

"We want to go on the record with a positive initiative for a change, not something negative like the opposition," he said.

Payne did not elaborate on the vehicle for civil disobedience, except for non-violent principles. A March on Sacramento is scheduled for May 7, 1988, a month before the election in order to rally necessary support.

The vast majority of signatures for the news AIDS' initiative was gathered by LaRouche zealots in Southern California. They got few signatures.

The gay and lesbian activists at the meeting decided the community could no longer be an open target for hatred and it therefore needed to take the offensive.

"We have to unseat the opposition and defeat them," Payne said. "We're sick and tired of being pushed around by lunatics like Doolittle and [Rep. William] Dannemeyer."

The coalition hopes to raise the \$40,000 needed for the public opinion survey from sympathetic politicians. The poll is expected for completion in February 1988, which Payne said left very little time to dawdle. ●

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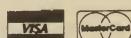
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B.A.R.

Mom Takes Son To Avoid Custody Going To Dad

Man with AIDS to Get Custody;
Mother, Child Go into Hiding

by Will Snyder

Artie Wallace wiped away a tear and struggled to control his voice. He looked out at a packed press conference in the Lesbian Rights Project (LRP) and moved closer to the microphone.

"I have AIDS and time is precious," he said. "I have fought this custody battle because my son has begged me to do this. I need to let my son know that I am still alive."

"Please bring him back before Christmas," he pleaded.

The custody battle Wallace referred to is the first case in the United States in which a gay father with AIDS is trying to win custody of his child from his former wife. The case involving Wallace, his ex-wife Julia, and their nine-year-old son Shawn, was scheduled to go to Superior Court in Victorville, in San Bernardino County in early August.

But the case never reached court. According to Roberta Achtenberg of the Lesbian Rights Project, Shawn was kidnapped by his mother on Aug. 3.

"I believe the child was taken against his will," Achtenberg said, "I believe he has been told lies: that either his father is dead or that his father has AIDS and will die soon. I think he has been brainwashed."

According to Achtenberg, Julia Wallace had become a devout fundamentalist Christian within the last year-and-a-half. She said Wallace's church pastor accompanied her to some court proceedings. Rev. Greg Bryant, of the Living Waters Chapel in Apple Valley, was quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle saying that Wallace is "a very frightened woman, frightened that her son might have AIDS." Bryant added that Shawn returned from a visit with his father and said he needed a blood test because he might have AIDS.

The minister also reportedly told the Chronicle that the father "abandoned" the child when the boy was three years old. An LRP spokesperson said, however, that Wallace was then a sergeant in the U.S. Army, was legally separated from his wife and was reassigned by the Army.

When B.A.R. attempted to confirm Bryant's comments, a



Roberta Achtenberg and Artie Wallace at a recent press conference
(Photo: S. Savage)

spokesperson for the Living Waters Chapel said Bryant was instructed by the San Bernardino district attorney not to make any comments about the case.

Karen Strauss of the LRP, blasted Bryant's comments. "This is certainly an inflammatory use of language," said Strauss. "He's known the woman for 18 months and he's certainly taking liberties I don't think he's qualified to take."

UNIQUE CUSTODY RULING

According to Achtenberg, three court-appointed experts on family relations were about to recommend that Artie Wallace be awarded custody of Shawn. "The three experts said he [Shawn] should go to Mr. Wallace," said Achtenberg, who added that in the event of Artie Wallace's death, custody of the child would revert to Julia Wallace. "As long as she is not unfit."

Strauss said the custody arrangement seemed to be of a humanitarian nature. She added that the experts discovered a "close bond" between the father and child. "They had chats with the father, mother and child," said Strauss, "and Shawn articulated that he wanted to be with his father."

Artie Wallace told reporters that the close bond with Shawn

is something that has been a part of their lives ever since the child's birth. "When my son was born," said Wallace, "I was in the operating room. I held him in my arms when he was less than ten minutes old."

"I had taken two weeks off from work to help care for him at that time," Wallace added. "When I got back to work it was on a night shift. My wife called me to say the baby wouldn't take the bottle from her, probably because he was so used to taking it from me."

SLOW INVESTIGATION

Achtenberg said a gag order had been imposed on all parties and attorneys which prevented them from utilizing the media in an effort to locate the child and mother. The gag order was lifted two weeks ago, but Achtenberg was highly critical of the effort by San Bernardino County law enforcement officials. "There has been an ongoing investigation," she said, "but it has been with less than good speed. We are very disturbed by all that has happened."

Achtenberg said the mother may be receiving financial support from fundamentalist Christians. "This woman had submitted on Mr. Wallace's \$500-a-month disability check," said Achtenberg. "She couldn't get by without some help."

Official descriptions of the child and mother are as follows: Shawn Patrick Wallace, age 9, has sandy brown hair, blue eyes and a slim build. He is four feet (4') tall and weighs 65 pounds. He likes to wear T-shirts with cartoon characters and either brown or blue jeans. Julia Wallace is white, age 30, with brown curly hair, green eyes and large, oval-framed glasses. She is 5-feet-7 inches tall and weighs between 210-220 pounds. She likes to wear blue jeans, pantsuits and a printed sweat shirt.

The LRP urged anyone who sees either or both people to contact Jim Campbell (415) 381-9320, the Vanished Children's Alliance, 1-800-VANISHED, or a local law enforcement official.

Lions Earmark New Group For \$10K

The San Francisco Castro Lions Club has designated the recently organized AIDS Daycare Services Centers, Inc., as a beneficiary of the club's annual \$10,000 fundraising commitment. According to Lions Club Vice President Jeff Harlowe, this is the third annual major commitment by the club to an AIDS-related charity.



Shawn Wallace with his mother Julia

For Exotic To Edible Come To The Fair

Christmas Crafts Fair Helps Women's Bldg.

by Mary Richards

Storybooks say that Santa's Workshop is at the North Pole. But some know better—it's right here on 18th Street on the Ninth Annual Women's Building Arts and Crafts Fair. For two full weekends, Dec. 12 and 13, 19 and 20, this community event will offer everything that you hoped to find when you were young and believed in the impossible wonders of Christmas.

Be entertained by storytellers, gospel singers, a whistler or a jazz artist. Exotic food from the four corners of the world will be offered to fill your appetite. Clowns and comedians will make you laugh at them—and at yourself. And best of all, in this "workshop" you don't have to leave it up to Santa—you can pick gifts from over 100 artisans who have come together to offer some of the most unusual and beautifully crafted items in the city.

Artistic objects for sale will range from the whimsical fruit jewelry of Charlotte Davis to pine-needle weavings produced by Elaine Yoder. Everything from original pottery to unique beads and baskets will be displayed, as booths for non-profit organizations disburse literature and sell t-shirts, buttons and bumperstickers.

A fair such as this can be a treat for children, and participants are welcome to bring the smallest members of the family to one of the best-organized and "constructive child care" facilities in the city. The traveling exhibit of the San Francisco Exploratorium will be there on both Saturdays to educate and amaze fairgoers, young and old. A clown will keep children occupied while their elders enjoy the festivities.

Pat Christiansen is responsible for coordinating the fair, and she is enthusiastic about the holiday fundraising event. "From my perspective it's been a great privilege," she says. "I don't know when I've been around a group of people who are as cooperative and appreciative.

"This is not a women's show," Pat stresses. "This is a show for the general public, and people who appreciate art, crafts, entertainment and a really good time."

Comedian Danny Williams will be a special part of that good time, and he wants everyone in

Help For Gay Prisoners

Begun as a personal interest/hobby intended to provide a useful service to the gay community, Joint Venture, a gay prisoner penpal service, has contacted some 200 gay inmates to date. Its "outsider" membership—always much smaller than its "insider" membership—has corresponded with hundreds of deserving gay prisoners who are lonely, isolated, and in need of someone to care. Now there is a serious need for more "outsider" gays who are interested in corresponding.

Joint Venture is a non-profit organization with no paid personnel. Its budget comes from the \$12 yearly fee which is paid by each "outsider" member (Inmates are charged no fee of any kind.)

For more information write Joint Venture, P.O. Box 26-8680, Chicago, ILL 60626.



The scene at the 1986 Celebration of Craftswomen, a major fundraiser for The Women's Building

the community to feel free to join in the fun. "I hope that men know it's a benefit for the Women's Building," Danny says. "It is a fair of craftswomen, but it's not a fair for women—men are welcome. I hope I can bring some men who wouldn't have come otherwise, because the money is needed."

Funds raised from the fair will go toward ensuring that the San Francisco landmark building and multi-purpose facility will continue to be a part of the community for many years to come. As well as housing specific groups, the Women's Building is host to

many lesbian and gay organizations who hold meetings, conferences and forums there.

The organization could not exist without volunteers, and Fernando Paredes is one of them. He has worked with the Women's Building for nearly a year and helps with security, as well as

assisting at special events such as the Arts and Crafts Fair.

Fernando says of the Women's Building, "I really appreciate the work they have been doing for the community, especially for women. I think people should get more involved, because it's a good cause."

Performers at the fair, 3543 18th St., will also include Gladys Palmer, Jessica Williams, Derique McGee, and the Gospel Elites. Admission is \$2 to \$5 on a sliding scale. Children under 12 will be admitted free and discounts are available for seniors. The event is wheelchair-accessible. •

San Francisco Examiner AIDS LIFELINE

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Daily Display
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Watch KPIX's **Threads of Love** live from Moscone Center,
Friday, December 18th at 8:00 p.m.

The NAMES project Quilt represents a nationwide effort to memorialize the tens of thousands of Americans who have been killed by the AIDS epidemic, to offer people a creative outlet for grief, and to provide a funding mechanism for local AIDS service organizations across the country.

BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Packing The Court

It may have been sheer coincidence but that coincidence may affect the course of history. Just when Pres. Reagan's Republicans thought it was safe to bring up the U.S. Constitution, the Supreme Court nomination hearings on Judge Robert Bork hit the airwaves and front pages of the U.S.A. From mid-September to mid-October we were treated to a center stage debate on the U.S. Supreme Court and the Constitution. All the Republicans had wanted was a little hokey patriotism, schmaltzy flag waving, and maybe a fireworks show. But their parade got rained on.

Instead of yet another puffing up of some very musty historical detritus, they got a rousing national discussion of what that document is all about. And then they got a slap in the face. Bork lost big.

I missed all the schmaltz over the Constitution's 200th anniversary (usually called "birthday" even though documents do not have birthdays). I believe the debate over Judge Bork's nomination was the best commemoration that could have been devised for the piece of paper by which our national government rules. It showed not only that Americans care about Constitutional issues but that there is still some life in the document.

Because a compelling issue occupied the nation's consciousness, the commemoration came to life. Suddenly we weren't talking about some high-minded phrases composed 200 years ago. We were talking about present-day realities. We got a look at what the Constitution says, what it means, how its meaning has been interpreted and re-interpreted over the years, and how notions of rights and protection from abuses of government power have changed. We got to see how this brief and simple document written two centuries ago fits into our society.

Americans got the chance to ask the question of what judges should do about it. When is a judge interpreting law and when is a judge making up his or her own law?

Fortunately for us, most Americans decided that Bork's views of the Constitution were too much of his own law and a radical departure from the document and the legal tradition that has developed from it. Few people

can identify exactly what is in the original Constitution. Nobody can truthfully say what the full intent was of the 1787 Constitutional Convention. But Americans today value the deep regard for civil liberties that has been built into our legal system. Jesse Helms and his ilk can huff and puff about tossing out legal guarantees for rights. We are now reminded that Helms does not speak for all.

Ronald Reagan and his kind have lost their bid to stack the U.S. Supreme Court with Right-Wing ideologues. Make no mistake about it: This was the most serious challenge to the integrity of the court system since Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt tried to pack the court in 1937.

Undoing the judicial system so that it becomes part of Reagan's political program has been near the top of the Right's agenda for most of the 1980s. Reagan is notorious for appointing some ludicrous ideologues to the federal bench, some of whom seem barely competent in the law.

In California we got a dose of the Right Wing's concern for an independent judiciary last year in the sacking of state Supreme Court Chief Justice Rose Bird and two fellow Justices. It is incredible to hear the Reaganoids squawking about Bork's opponents "politicizing the courts." The Republicans have tried to politicize the courts just as they've exploited every chance from birth to death to turn issues and institutions into soapboxes for and enforcers of their ideology.

In the near future, our Constitutional protections and the rule of law on which they rest are going to be pushed to the limits. The Right Wing is continuing to hammer away at basic human rights. On the fringe are the LaRouche types pushing again for AIDS hysteria. But even the mainstream Republican Party seems to be considering exploitation of hysteria for political gain.

Regardless of who sits on the Supreme Court, Americans have now been awakened to the fundamental respect for human rights that is structured into our nation's fundamental law. Fundamentalism can cut both ways.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Demographic Catastrophe and Social Adaptation: The Impact of AIDS

PART II

(Summary of a talk given Mar. 15, 1986, at the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in Washington, D.C.)

by John Newmeyer

How will the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s be viewed in historical context? What habits, forms, and themes will carry on into the next generation, and subsequent generations? It now seems that, at minimum, the epidemic will engender a "demographic catastrophe" among some subgroups of the American population.

A "demographic catastrophe" is here defined as an event which removes more than one-twentieth (5 percent) of an otherwise healthy population within a short period. It is likely that at least three American groups will suffer demographic catastrophes during the period 1983-1988, as a result of AIDS: (1) sexually active gay male San Franciscans, (2) sexually active gay male New Yorkers, and (3) intravenous drug-using New Yorkers. Some observers have speculated that such catastrophes will seriously disrupt, and possibly destroy, the social cohesion which had existed in those groups prior to 1983.

The author, an epidemiologist and social historian, suggests that the opposite may be the case. He argues that the experience of European youth from belligerent nations during World War I provides the closest analogy to the experience of groups at risk for AIDS. A number of parallels bolster this argument.

Although there was a powerful desire to focus blame on some "cause for the catastrophe," those who experienced it were increasingly forced to the conclusion that blaming was a pointless exercise. The dominant fact was that the catastrophe, whatever its beginning, was an overwhelming, ongoing reality, essentially without any "meaning".

For those who were surviving the catastrophe, there was a "ridiculous proximity" between horrors on the one hand and pleasant diversion on the other. Just as a Tommy could be under bombardment in the trenches in the morning and on leave in Paris in the evening, so could a

1980's man be at a dying lover's bedside in the morning and at a lively gay party in the evening.

These parallels are compelling, but it should be kept in mind that there are also many differences between the crises faced by the young men of 1914-1918 and those of 1983-1988. Nevertheless, the author contends that the world after the great AIDS epidemic, for gay men in New York and San Francisco, will resemble that of European men after the Great War in important respects.

Social cohesion among gay men will increase, and their institutional structures will generally be stronger. However, those institutions formerly associated with sexual promiscuity—bars, bathhouses, etc.—will be weaker.

There will be a vibrant, perhaps even "roaring," quality to gay male social life, albeit with a de-emphasis upon promiscuous sexual interaction.

There will be deeply-felt cynicism and bitterness about the American medical establishment and political system.

Gay male consciousness will be less "rational," more "romantic." A keen interest in paranormal phenomena in general, and spiritualism in particular, will persist.

Two formerly low-status segments of the gay male world—aged men and celibates—will enjoy an immense increase in status, just as did women as a result of World War I.

The paramount factor, however, is this: the catastrophe of the AIDS epidemic is now so pervasive that it will maintain a hold on the mind of this generation of gay men for the rest of their lives. It is said that the Great War "continued to be fought in the psyche" of the veteran. Thus will the AIDS trauma of the 1980s remain a central theme of the culture of gay American life, for half a century to come.

LETTERS

No Witchhunt

★ As members of Humboldt County's gay and lesbian community, we feel compelled to respond to the Dec. 3 article in the B.A.R., entitled "Teacher Charges Witchhunt in Arrest."

Many folks in the local gay community were quite relieved when Mr. Silver was arrested. As gay and lesbian people we abhor the societal stereotypes of gay people as "child molesting homosexuals." What we abhor even more though, are those people whose alleged activities perpetuate those stereotypes.

Mr. Silver spoke of himself as a "positive image of a gay man . . . a gay role model." We who are gay, and live in Humboldt County, beg to differ. We believe he is neither.

Mr. Silver, who has been an "openly gay" teacher for many years, found it "suspicious that the power structure . . . should turn against him at this particular time." As openly gay teachers, medical people, merchants, parents and community members, we have never been supportive of Mr. Silver.

We do not believe this case represents the beginning of a "witchhunt" against gay people on the Northcoast. We believe the charges filed against Mr. Silver have nothing to do with his being gay.

In our opinion, your paper failed miserably in its research of this case. There was no mention of the District Attorney's position on the case. (Had you inquired, you may have found that many of those coming forward with information on this case are members of the local gay community, not simply a bunch of "homophobic" school administrators.)

It is our hope, that in the future, the B.A.R. will strive to present a more accurate and balanced picture, not just one man's side.

Steve Bethurum Kathleen A. McCormick
Dave Gonsalves Richard F. Moore, Jr.
David G. Hanna Mary P. Nessel
Timothy S. Hatch Tom Phillips
Bob Jarvis Steven G. Rhodes
Fran Larsen Robert Stanley
Robert Levesque John B. Tighe
Doug Losee Donald A. Tippery
John Lowe Roger Vail
Randolph L. Wood

ED NOTE: Mr. Silver's story was published in the same spirit we are publishing your letter. I have no more reason to believe you represent the Eureka area gay and lesbian community than does Mr. Silver. His story deserves to be told, however, and raises some serious—and familiar—questions. The district attorney and school officials were not contacted because they cannot comment on such cases. Silver's innocence or guilt will be determined in a courtroom. But the Eureka gay community ought to realize that it too is on trial, like it or not.

Ray O'Loughlin

March Coverage

★ This letter was sent to reader William Sweigart in response to a letter he had sent to CBS News:

Dear Mr. Sweigart:

Thank you for your letter of October 16, regarding coverage of the civil rights demonstration by gay rights activists at the Supreme Court. Mr. Rather has asked me to respond.

We regret that our coverage seemed insufficient to you. The CBS Evening News is well aware of the significance of the gay rights movement, and we have every intention of covering this movement to the best of our ability.

We appreciate your taking the time to express your criticism. Please be assured that your comments have been considered.

William V. Madison
Assistant to Dan Rather
CBS News, New York, NY

Cranston: Helms' Buddy?

★ This letter was sent to Sen. Alan Cranston:

Dear Sen. Cranston:

After reading the headlines of the Nov. 19 Bay Area Report entitled "State Demos Censure Cranston, I must admit it is appalling that I voted for your re-election last year. I never thought you would join the ranks of Right-Wing Bigot Sen. Jesse Helms! What is blatantly hypocritical is that an analysis of last year's vote indicates that your eyelash-thin victory would have been impossible without gay support. Typical of our Washington politicians. It's only a shame our U.S. Senators are elected for six years and not two.

On another subject, I sent you a copy of my Nov. 6 letter to Sen. Pete Wilson regarding the 79-19 Sen-

ate vote regarding Congressional pay raises. My original letter to you requesting this information has gone unanswered. Please confirm receipt of my original letter to you, and as I requested this information well over a month ago I might like to suggest that an elected official representing the California electorate someone get off their duff and provide me with the voting record as originally requested.

My time and money is limited, and having to spend 22 cents for postage can add up. I do not have an unlimited postage account as our U.S. Congressmen presently enjoy with their franking privileges. I am mailing this "Certified Receipt" so I will know this letter did in fact reach you in Washington, D.C. Whether you choose to answer it will remain to be seen.

Glen Allen Reid
Oakland

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★ It is easy to change from VISA to Mastercharge. Just phone David Hudson at 953-0142. He works for BoA and is sympathetic to our cause. He can change your VISA to a Mastercharge within a week. There are no forms to fill out, no loss of limits and no loss of bonus points.

Other banks must be able to do this as easily as Bank of America. Do it NOW. Pick up your phone and change to Mastercharge.

Bill Jones
Sausalito

Live In Harmony With The Animals

★ This letter was sent to International Male, P.O. Box 85043, San Diego, CA 92138-9135:

Your Winter catalog of men's clothing featured belts and wallets made from "exotic snakeskin," "Argentinian Lizard," and "rare exotic snakeskin."

Your catalog and stores have a well-deserved reputation, particularly in the gay men's community, for high quality, reasonably priced, attractive and stylish clothing. However, I and many men in the community, object to the killing of rare and exotic animals to feed someone's clothing tastes.

There are major movements around the world to protect wildlife and to put a stop to killing animals for their pelts, with such celebrities as Bob Barker leading the way.

I am appalled by your insensitivity to this issue and your attempts to sell these products. Whether or not these skins are truly from rare animals doesn't detract from the point that you are advertising them as such. We must learn to live in harmony with other animals or surely we are no better than them.

I ask that you remove me from your mailing list until such time as you stop selling these goods and apologize to your buying public. I am putting other organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, the Fund for Animals, etc. on alert so that they might also spread the word.

Dan Dickmeyer
Santa Cruz

An Act of Faith

★ As an "act of faith" every person with AIDS should buy himself or herself next year's calendar. I did!

Kevin L. Anderson
San Francisco

The Chron Goofed Again

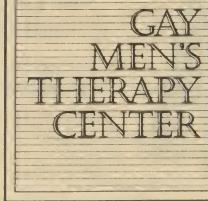
★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle.

I was dismayed that your Dec. 3 editorial on the late James Baldwin failed to mention an essential part of his identity and genius. Mr. Baldwin moved from the United States to France to improve his lot not only as a black but as a homosexual. In the 1950s discrimination against blacks was open and hence subject to criticism and amelioration, but homosexuality was totally suppressed.

Giovanni's Room (1956) is a landmark in gay literature because for the first time a serious American writer made homosexuality a central theme and discussed its varying aspects with candor. Baldwin was neither a black writer nor a gay writer, but a black, gay writer whose eloquence and passion were part of his gay sensibility.

The Chronicle has the social responsibility not to perpetuate and enforce the conspiracy of silence that denies the existence of a gay culture.

P. C. Silva
San Francisco



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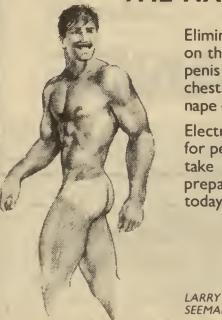
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J. Krug
San Francisco

Don't Underestimate Us

★ As a participant in seven years of marches down Market Street, I must wonder if I am the only one who felt shamelessly manipulated by the events and agenda of this year's Harvey Milk Memorial Candlelight March.

First, there was the detour across Market Street for the express purpose of "putting a crowd" in front of the NAMES Project office. Under the piercing glare of the media cameras and lights, people were coerced into making donations in front of a little shrine to Mr. Milk. A supposedly quiet and dignified evening devoted to remembering a gay hero and assessing our progress as a movement was turned, instead, into a carefully orchestrated media circus right off the bat.

As a contributor to the NAMES Project, I was offended. Many of us have spent many hours contributing in fabric to a Project which claims in its

literature to be "a positive expression of personal loss as well as a dramatic illustration of the impact of AIDS on American society"—a visible, personal way for a grieving national population of lovers, friends and families of those lost to AIDS to discharge some of their grief.

Recent developments in the media have made it clear that the Project has a much more ambitious agenda: that of building a grass-roots political power base for its leader(s). Fine. My problem isn't with ambitious politicians, only their methods. Had I known what I know now, I could have considered my options. The problem, then, is with deceit and manipulation on the part of the Project's leadership.

Later on, in front of City Hall, it was instantly obvious that someone or some group, had railroaded their own narrow agenda into play. The topic was violence against gay people, the focus, CUAV. The issue of violence against gay people is certainly a very serious one, and should be addressed, especially in a setting for a memorial march for a leader such as Harvey Milk. However, to so narrowly limit the focus to the subject of the brave—but chronically troubled CUAV (almost to the exclusion of even mentioning Harvey Milk) seemed strange.

Something else seemed strange. Many people link anti-gay violence with the spread and fear of the AIDS epidemic. Almost no mention was made of that proven link.

Leaders, take note: You are making some sloppy decisions, created in the self-serving vacuum of petty political maneuvering. Perhaps if you begin to listen to your community and not just yourselves, you might possibly avoid making the biggest mistake of all: Underestimating the heart and stamina and intelligence of your respective constituencies.

Tony Coppock
San Francisco

The March And Amtrak

★ This excerpted letter was sent to Rep. Barney Frank:

Dear Representative Frank:

I am responding to your recent correspondence regarding your interest in behalf of the Gay and Lesbian Rights March on Washington Committee. The committee had requested Amtrak operate special trains to Washington during the weekend of Oct. 11 which we regrettably were forced to turn down.

In July of this year, Amtrak's Sales Office in New York was contacted by Mr. Ed Heller of Innovations in Travel regarding the possibility of chartering a special train from Boston/New York to the March on Washington in October. As is our normal practice, Mr. Heller was given a cost estimate and asked to submit a formal written request for this train.

Only after Mr. Heller submitted the appropriate paperwork, did it become clear that the March on Washington was scheduled for Oct. 11, the day before Columbus Day. Traditionally, travel is very heavy on three-day weekends, thoroughly taxing the resources of all modes of transportation—including Amtrak.

Mr. Heller was advised in August that, since the march coincided with a busy holiday weekend, a special train from Boston to Washington could not be provided. On a more positive note, Mr. Heller was also informed by Amtrak's New York Sales Office that we could reserve 275 seats on Train 67, the Night Owl, which operates between those cities. Regrettably, other marchers bound for Washington from Boston would have to take conventional unreserved trains, and availability of space could not be guaranteed.

It is important to understand that Amtrak did not—and could not—make a commitment to provide any special train from Boston/New York to Washington, because we did not have the equipment to do so. We did, however, continue to explore the feasibility of other carriage options and finally were able to secure limited commuter equipment from the Maryland Department of Transportation in an attempt to make up a special one-day train for marchers traveling from New York to Washington. However, this train was later cancelled by the march organizers because they felt the cost was too high. While we can understand why this arrangement was not acceptable to the group, Amtrak, under the somewhat unfortunate circumstances, did make a sincere effort to accommodate the marchers through every available alternative.

As you can see, additional equipment to make up additional trains for special charter is extremely rare because there are no "extra" cars in existence. I must point out emphatically that Amtrak's primary directive is to provide regularly scheduled intercity rail passenger service on a national scale.

Renee Y. Bank
Senior Govt. Communications Officer
Amtrak, Washington, D.C.

LETTERS

Mean Spirit

★ The following letter was sent to Mayor Dianne Feinstein:

Dear Mayor Feinstein:

The Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee to the Human Rights Commission is sorely disappointed that you did not see fit to reappoint Esta Soler to a seat on the commission. We strongly support Commissioner Phyllis Lyon in her decision to resign from the commission in protest, and we ask that you reappoint both of them before your term as mayor ends.

Over the years, Commissioner Soler has educated herself on issues of concern to this committee and has been active in protecting the human rights of San Francisco's diverse populations, including lesbians and gays. For example, Commissioner Soler personally involved herself in the planning of the public hearings on AIDSARC discrimination. She attended planning meetings, advised staff members, offered insight and support, and chaired the hearings. Her help in putting together these important hearings were essential.

It is especially appalling that Commissioner Soler's non-reappointment appears to be in retribution for her support of the HRC's Missouri resolution opposing discrimination against lesbians and gays. This resolution was agreed to by an overwhelming vote of the commission, and endorsed unanimously by this committee as a strong statement of support for our human rights. The commission gained wide praise for being able to put political interests aside and decide the issue in accordance with their mandate, to protect the human rights of San Francisco's citizens. The commissioners waived their personal views on bringing the Missouri to San Francisco, and specifically considered the human rights ramifications of the issue.

The fact that you rejected Commissioner Soler with just two meetings to go, and the fact that you disrupted the work of the commission by depriving it of so able a chairperson, leads us to believe you acted out of brazen political considerations and with a mean spirit. We have lost not only a dedicated commissioner in Commissioner Soler, but also a co-chair of our committee. Commissioner Lyon worked for years to make this committee effective and to keep our efforts relevant.

We offer our full support of Commissioners Soler and Lyon, and ask that you promptly reappoint them to the Human Rights Commission.

Members of the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee to the Human Rights Commission

Larry Brinkin	Lester Olmstead-Rose
Chris Grubbs	Marcie Reins
Tony Henry	Dan Turner
Ruth Hughes	Carmen Vazquez
Marty Kashuba	Darrel Yee

Rebate Checks for Research

★ We would like to suggest an alternative to the current campaign to donate California tax rebate checks to the public schools. We urge members and friends of the gay community to donate their tax rebates to an AIDS research project or a program providing direct assistance to PWA's.

Millions of dollars will be received and by combining these checks, the community can provide major support for these programs which are in desperate need of funds. We urge you to send your rebate to one of these agencies and to encourage your friends to do the same.

Michael Becker
Donn Wheatley
San Francisco

Not Constructive

★ I read with great concern Mr. Marcus' report on the Mr. South of Market Contest. It seems to this reader (and also a spectator of the contest), that more than a couple remarks deserve a response.

1. The cost of advertising is prohibitive in general for most nonprofit direct service agencies who are focusing on spending their monies on services to persons who need assistance. The rate for placing a full page ad in a community newspaper may have meant that several persons with AIDS would have done without a needed meal.

2. I personally saw Mr. Selby and Christian Heran on 18th and Castro the two weekends prior to the contest. Simply because Marcus did not see anyone, does not mean no one was there!

3. This contest was billed as Mr. South of Market. Nowhere do I read the word "leather" in that promotion. For Marcus to narrowly define South of Market as Leather is not only inaccurate, but absurd. The Leather Community has always lent support and has been the "strength" when times are tough, but this

was an attempt to have the other parts of SOMA represented and provide an opportunity to become involved in a more than worthy endeavor.

4. Who left Marcus in charge of deeming who is and isn't a leatherperson? Because a man doesn't wear enough hide to make a herd of cows envious is not any reason to say he is not a leatherman. As a leatherwoman, I was embarrassed to read that Marcus takes it upon himself to make such judgments. I consider myself a part of the Leather Community and Marcus certainly doesn't speak for me.

Perhaps there are other reasons people did not attend this contest. Consider that in the last nine months alone I have attended: Mr. International Leather, Mr. San Francisco Leather, Mr. Drummer, Leather Daddy, Leather Daddy's Boy, Mr. CMC, and who knows how many Buns, Chests and Jocks!!! Perhaps we are all feeling a little tapped out? There comes a time when we all get a little tired of giving and need to pull out (pardon the pun) of the fast lane and take a breather. Perhaps this was one of those times.

It is important to remember what we are doing and why we are doing it. We are giving what we can to others because we are able to. Being critical of how, when and why are necessary, but unfair criticism is not constructive.

Sky Renfro
San Francisco

Close My Account

★ This letter was sent to Mr. William Siart, President and CEO, First Interstate Bank, 21515 Hawthorne Blvd., Union Tower, Suite 700, Torrance, CA 90503:

Dear Mr. Siart:

I find to my dismay, that First Interstate Bank has made a sizeable financial contribution to the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Please close my First Interstate checking account immediately. The USOC has shown ignorant, homophobic contempt for my community, and I see no reason to subsidize ignorance and bigotry.

I resent being made to support, involuntarily, my enemies.

As you must be aware, that while the name "Olympic" is freely used by those who sponsor crab cooks, rat races, frog jumps, and other endeavors, (some worthwhile and some frivolous), the USOC refused use of the word "Olympic" to the gay/lesbian community for their athletic competition. The unequal treatment should be obvious.

As you must also know, this issue reached the U.S. Supreme Court. It is the *dissenting* opinion on the Supreme Court case which will in time prevail—not the ignorant, homophobic and logically silly majority opinion which states that the USOC has not been discriminatory in their refusal to let the Gay Games use the name "Olympic," while letting hundreds of other organizations do so.

Have you no awareness that at least 20 percent, and possibly more here in the San Francisco Bay Area, are gay men and lesbians, and, additionally, your customers? Some are very large depositors.

While I regret that you do not look at what your bank is doing from a moral, ethical perspective, from a purely business standpoint, you are going to lose a lot of money on this "misguided patriotism."

David P. Steward, MSW
Mountain View, CA

Lesbians as Care Givers

★ In Tamara Lucas and Yvonne Price's Nov. 19 letter, they lamented the lack of lesbians in the New Zealand feature film *A Death in the Family*. They noted, "The filmmakers lost an opportunity to publicly acknowledge that *all* of us are coming together to take care of our own during this tragedy." In this country, a documentary film has been made, however, that does include lesbians as care givers.

Living With AIDS, made in San Francisco, depicts a 22-year-old gay man, Todd Coleman, and those who took care of him, including both his lesbian nurse and social worker. These two women, his two Shanti volunteers, and his lover comprised his "family" during the last stage of his illness. Community activist Sally Gearhardt narrated. The film screened at this year's San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Film Festival and has won numerous awards internationally.

Furthermore, this film was made mostly by women, and in large part by lesbians, including the producer/director, cinematographer, and the production manager. This letter is an assurance to Lucas and Price that lesbians are recording our history, not being written out of it. Carle Medical Communications, a nonprofit health distributor markets *Living With AIDS*. Questions, call 824-7398.

Kent Turner
San Francisco

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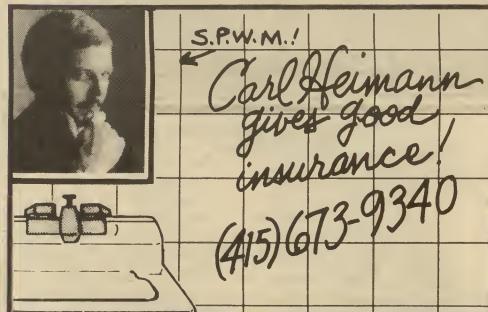
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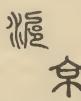
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man, and others. Sup. Harry Britt, who most agree would be the strongest candidate the gay community could offer, was meeting with friends and political advisors. While admitting he was "interested" in the race, he said this week that he hasn't yet decided on becoming a candidate.

A presidential advisory task force report released this week in Washington said that the federal government should not support changes which would allow gays to adopt children. It was also announced this week that all Army personnel on active duty will be tested for exposure to the AIDS virus at least once every two years, making the Army the first military service to establish a policy for periodic re-testing of service people for the virus. Under the testing program which will take effect Jan. 1, service personnel who are assigned outside the continental U.S. or to certain units such as Ranger forces could face even more frequent screening.

State Treasurer-designate Dan Lundgren, thought to face rough confirmation proceedings in getting his new job, now looks to be in good shape. Though he won't face hearings until probably February, the leader in the state senate, President Pro Tem David Roberti said this week, "I don't have any reason to vote against him." Deukmejian's appointment of the Long Beach Congressman makes him only the second Republican to hold statewide constitutional office.

Burton, meanwhile, showed his hand and that of the McCarthy-Brown machine when he told a reporter that if he does run for the Assembly he would serve no more than a couple of terms, adding that "would give us time to groom a good young candidate."

In a 1984 interview John Burton told a reporter that during his last years in Congress he freely based cocaine to such an extent "it becomes your whole life . . . there were times when I would stop, or try to stop, and I'd be so depressed that I couldn't function without doing something. I'd stop using one drug and substitute another."

Burton has said that his drug habit drained all his finances and cost him his second marriage, eventually sending him to a rehabilitation hospital. The fact that John Burton's former cocaine habit was being so freely discussed in political circles in San Francisco this week left little doubt that it was bound to become an issue if he entered the Assembly race.

Others said to be considering running included Sup. Dick Hongisto, Community College Board member Tim Wolfred, lesbian attorney/activist Roberta Achternberg, two-time supervisorial loser Pat Nor-

(Continued on next page)

Live From Our Studios

In a city that supports several gay newspapers and radio programs, there is but one gay television show. It is called Electric City, and it appears in San Francisco just 12 times a year, the fourth Thursday of every month at 9 p.m. on Cable Channel 6. (In the East Bay it is shown on the first Sunday of each month at 10 p.m. on Channel 35.)

With such a limited geographic base and time schedule, Electric City hardly poses an immediate threat to Evening Magazine or Entertainment Tonight. But its producers say they have every intention of changing that.

Electric City was born just over a year ago, in late November 1986. A small but determined group of actors, writers, and directors saw a need in the community and resolved to fulfill it. At the time, there was another gay show appearing weekly, but it met with mixed critical success and ultimate financial failure.

Says Electric City publicist David Nahmod, "Although two of us were associated with that effort, Electric City was not an outgrowth of any previous show. We simply saw that there was a lot of talent in this city that wasn't being used, and we decided to use it."

Adds producer Mark Wang, "There were other reasons as well. There was so much death and destruction around, we needed something positive to uplift us. Besides, it was a way to preserve our history. Until recently, the visual history of the gay community has been sadly neglected."

Unlike its predecessors, Electric City makes little attempt to cover the news. It is based instead on a magazine format. For each 30-minute show, five or six separate segments deal primarily with community events, personality profiles, and topics of general interest. These are tied together by comedy bumpers, showcasing the talents of such arcane performers as Dead Marilyn and Sandy Van, a female drag queen who does a wicked imitation of Tallulah Bankhead.

The October show, for instance, featured the March of Washington and the



Sandy Van loves to do *Electric City*

Castro Street Fair as well as profiles of Z. Budapest, a lesbian witch; Ellen Brook Davis, an actress with Theatre Rhinoceros; and the directors of *A Death in the Family*, an English film about AIDS. Other shows have covered topics such as gay parenting, domestic violence, older gay people, and alternative AIDS treatments.

Although its producers aspire to great things, Electric City is still essentially a Mickey-and-Judy enterprise. Much of the footage is shot in the old stable behind director Sande Mack's Victorian home on Collingwood Street using hand-held cameras.

Furthermore, the semi-professional staff of writers, directors, editors, actors, and technical people responsible for the show have only a limited amount of practical experience.

But this is not necessarily a drawback, says director Mack, for what the staff lacks in experience they make up in enthusiasm. "Besides," he continues, "some

of us do have extensive theatrical backgrounds. For the others, it's a training experience."

Given the project's limited budget, its producers have little choice but to accept this state of affairs for the time being. While each show costs only \$500 or \$600 to produce (plus indirect expense), the program has only two major sponsors—Campus Theater and Superstar Video—plus a rotating series of smaller supporters, such as One Big Man, One Big Truck.

The bulk of Electric City's funds are provided by its staff.

"We all pay for it," explains Mack, "by contributing what we can. We work as waiters, masseurs, building managers, secretaries, and the like to support the show. We do it because we love it. I live it 18 hours a day—and that kind of commitment is typical."

At present, Electric City is still a money-losing proposition, but Wang, Nah-

mod, and Mack say they expect to break even very soon. Already they have expansion plans. In January, the show will become available in Berkeley, Alameda, and Emeryville. Sacramento and Marin County are the next markets the producers hope to conquer.

Eventually, they would like to hook up with other gay video groups nationwide, using the studios and three-camera set-up recently offered by Peralta College's broadcasting school.

Naturally, none of this can happen without strong community support. States Mack, "Fortunately, we've got it. In San

Francisco alone, we have a potential market of 120,000 homes that already receive cable. The cable company estimates that 20 percent of that audience is gay.

"Of those 24,000 gay people, many watch the show regularly. They recognize our announcers on the street. They call in with feedback, leads, and requests for stories. Since others have failed before us, we realize that we really have to prove ourselves to make it. We believe that's just what we're doing."

Stay tuned for Electric City's first anniversary show on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at 9 p.m., Channel 6.

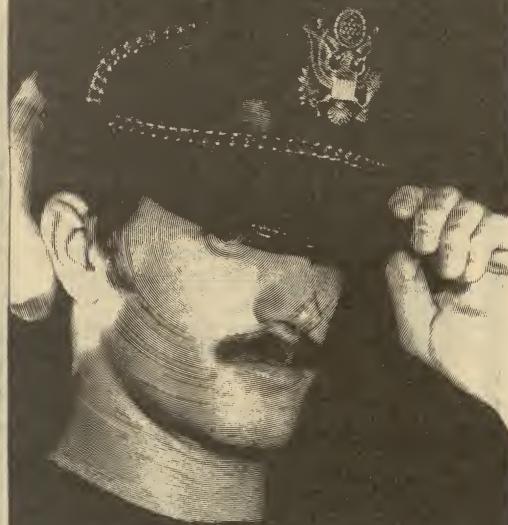
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The Advocate
November 10, 1987

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Mass. Senate OK's Rights Bill But Battle Not Over Yet

BOSTON—Although the Massachusetts Senate voted 20-15 to approve a state gay rights bill, that legislation may yet die a slow death. The Senate vote occurred Nov. 23, 43 days before the scheduled end of the legislature's session. It now goes to a Committee for a Third Reading which could bottle up the measure for at least 45 days.

If the normally automatic procedure goes smoothly, Gov. Michael Dukakis could have the bill to sign by the new year. Dukakis has pledged to sign the bill into law. But Senate rules allow the committee 45 days to act. If they delay, the bill would be effectively killed.

According to reports in Gay Community News, opponents have already succeeded in prolonging the bill's movement for weeks. They fear they could squelch the measure. A key opponent, Sen. Arthur Lewis, Jr., has said that he will use his clout as chair of the Committee for a Third Reading to keep the bill from being enacted.

Attention was focused on the role that Dukakis

could play in salvaging the bill. Advocates say that he could use the opportunity to enhance his damaged reputation in the gay and lesbian community due to his anti-gay stance on foster care. "I'm cautious about its chance of passing," said Arline Isaacson, of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, "but I think the governor has a good shot at convincing senators to move the bill out of a Third Reading."

Opponents of the rights bill, however, argue that Dukakis has nothing to gain and a lot to lose by pushing the legislation. They claim that it could destroy Dukakis' national political aspirations.

The bill, H. 5469, would ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. "We need to reassure senators that the bill is a modest measure that quite simply affirms civil rights. It calls for respecting human dignity and offering equal opportunity to all people," said Sen. Michael Barrett, a supporter of the bill.

—*Gay Community News*

Gay Man Named To State Legislature

SEATTLE—An openly gay man has been named to the Washington state legislature to fill out the term of a legislator who had resigned to run for higher office. Cal Anderson, 39, was sworn in to represent the 43rd District of the legislature's lower house Nov. 9. He was the unanimous choice of the King County Council.

"I'm a Democrat who happens to be gay rather than a gay Democrat, and that's what helped me prevail," Anderson told The Advocate. "My support came from gays and lesbians, labor, community activists—from every section of the local Democratic party. It really feels good for me, and I know it really feels good for our community," he said.

Anderson has been a veteran Democratic Party activist and was an aide to Seattle Mayor Charles Royer.

Don Moreland, president of Seattle's Dorian Group, a gay rights organization, praised Anderson's appointment as "imensely significant." "Cal is not at all closeted and he speaks eloquently to our issues," said Moreland. "He will be a good spokesperson for the community at a time when we badly need it. He knows how the legislative process works and he'll be able to do great things."

Anderson mentioned that he is especially concerned with AIDS health care and insurance issues.

He faces election in September 1988. But the 43rd District is considered safe for a Democrat. His supporters were already planning his campaign and lining up support and money for the effort. "Once he gets by the first election he'll be safe," said Moreland. "Unless I'm wrong, we're going to have a voice that is going to be heard from for a long time to come," he added.

—*The Advocate*

Gay Parent's Visit Rights Restricted

PHILADELPHIA—A Family Court judge has ruled that a gay man cannot visit with his children if he is in the "presence or company of homosexuals." The temporary ruling by Judge Vito Canuso only slightly modified a July 1985 custody order. That ruling allowed Clem Pasarella to visit his two daughters, age seven and nine, on alternate weekends at his grandparents' home.

Pasarella was permitted to "spend time with his children outside of their residence to engage in reasonable activities and events" as long as it was not in the company of his then lover. He was denied overnight custody outside of his grandparents' home.

Canuso's earlier ruling was upheld by a Pennsylvania Appellate Court. Canuso intends to issue a final ruling in the case on Dec. 31.

—*Philadelphia Gay News*

Gay Lobby Expands, Doubles Budget

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Encouraged by an unexpected rise in donations this year, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is planning a \$1.5 million budget for next year. Financial reports released at the group's November board meeting show an income of over \$600,000, nearly \$77,000 more than was projected for 1987.

Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF media spokesperson, attributed the rise in donations to several factors, especially the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights held in October. "The March on Washington inspired thousands and thousands of lesbians and gay men to become politically active," she said. She also mentioned the worsening AIDS epidemic, last year's Supreme Court ruling criminalizing gay sex acts, and the battle to defeat Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court for sparking gay and lesbian political interest. The Bork effort alone brought in \$200,000 to NGLTF.

The group plans an ambitious direct mail fundraising effort to solicit new members and retain present memberships. Programs will be expanded as income rises, said Vaid.

—*Washington Blade*

QUOTE UNQUOTE

'Accurate information is currently the only weapon we have to stem the tide of this growing epidemic.'

—Elizabeth Taylor, speaking to the National Press Club

'Homophobia is still good politics, especially when it comes wrapped in Bible Belt rhetoric. That is the dismal lesson of the recent Congressional amendment to an appropriations bill that will hamstring safer-sex educational programs aimed at the gay community.'

—The Nation editorializing on Sen. Jesse Helms' effort to cut sex education funds as obscene

'What gay people will have to do before they can make a larger political

impact is put the gay issues first and all other issues second. A black person would rarely vote for a racist candidate, no matter how good the candidate was on economic or defense issues. But gays, time and time again, will vote for a homophobic candidate because they like how he stands on other issues. We've got to stop doing that.'

—Vic Basile, director of the gay PAC, Human Rights Campaign Fund

'I have no intention of giving the streets of America to the radical and militant homosexuals. If we have to fight them, let's do it and let's win.'

—Pat Robertson, Republican presidential candidate

Fuzzy Picture For Gay Cable Show

Viacom Cable Show Offensive; Producers Cry Censorship

by Mary Richards

The plug almost got pulled last week on Electric City, the Bay Area's gay cable television show, when Viacom Cablevision objected to portions of a show that they called offensive. At a meeting Tuesday (Dec. 8), some differences were worked out, but Electric City's producers say they are being censored. Worse, they say, Viacom is not even giving them clear guidelines on which to operate while other shows broadcast more offensive material.

The station's complaint concerns the group's half-hour Thanksgiving show during which strippers from a male club appeared partially nude in an advertisement.

Sue Levitin, director of public affairs for Channel 6, said, "We have had a good relationship with Electric City prior to this problem. Then there was an ad shown of a gay nightclub with partially nude images. This kind of thing is unusual for the people who produce the show. We can't continue to show partially nude images on our channel."

SHOWS PREVIEWED

Electric City disagrees. They point to the fact that there was no reaction from the station when the same advertisement was broadcast earlier in September. Last March they also produced a segment, which was aired, highlighting the talents of Rainbow, a female stripper.

The gay collective has complied with station protocol, they say. That requires them to submit a tape of their show for approval a few days before it is broadcast. To their knowledge, they are the only program on the channel which is obligated to fulfill this stipulation. They submitted the Thanksgiving show for review, and it was aired as produced.

Then on Dec. 4, a salesperson from the station called to inform them that their contract was

under consideration for cancellation.

According to Mark Wang, of Electric City, Viacom representatives told the show's producers Tuesday that the problem was with the content of the shows that, in their words, violated personal and professional standards of decency. Viacom said that previous shows had been previewed only for technical points.

Wang said that Viacom told the group that "Electric City could continue to broadcast as long as it did not offend straight audiences." He said that station officials would not specify what that meant.

But the group vowed to continue. "There are people out there with AIDS and ARC who want to see the show. We're not going to let it die," said Sande Mack, a member of the collective that puts the show together.

"We're being censored. We're paying to be censored," said Mack. The collective pays Channel 6 for the broadcast time.

Created and directed by Mack, Electric City was born in 1986. The half-hour segments of the show are broadcast the last Thursday of each month on Channel 6, and the first Sunday of each month in Oakland on Channel 35.

The program is composed of various vignettes of gay life, frequently highlighting AIDS



David-Alex Nahmod, Sande Mack, Mark Wang, and Dan Carlisle of Electric City
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

groups, local artists and performers, and others in the community in a semi-documentary format.

Dan Carlisle of radio station KKCY-FM is a collective member. "I don't want to work with people who are promoting stereotypes," he said. "I was tired of seeing gay people in drag all the time. He said he "wouldn't be involved in anything that was just a sex program. Not because I have anything against sex, but there has to be more to it than that."

BOYCOTT?

Mack said there is more to Electric City. A list of those who have appeared on their programs includes Sharon McNight, Mary

Dunlap, Harvey Fierstein, Joseph Papp, Nancy Pelosi, Art Agnos and John Molinari. The show ranks ninth out of 50 programs.

"If they [Channel 6] do take us off," Mack claims, "that's not going to stop us. For the first six months our show only played in San Francisco and then we went to Oakland. Now we're on Cable 35 and next is Peralta College (PC-TV) and that starts in January. We've proven that we can perform and we've gone to other cities—it's a show that people know."

Wang contends that the gay programming on Channel 6 can hardly be termed offensive to viewers when compared with other fare that is offered to them. He cites as an example the 1934

movie *Maniac*, shown six times on Sinister Cinema, which portrays a topless woman being beaten and raped.

"We don't think they have a right to take us off," Wang says, "and we think that if they do, the community should boycott. They claim that 33 percent of their subscribers are gay, and that's about 35,000 to 36,000 people. If they think that homosexuals are so offensive, we should not give them any money."

Speaking for Viacom, Levitin denied that gay programming was being treated in any special way. "We think that we may be the first TV station outside of New York City to air openly gay shows and we're proud of that," she said.

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Sande Mack

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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Estate Settlement Funds Gay Studies

Court Upholds Teacher's Will Granting Funds to City College

by Marv. Shaw

The long-cherished dream of Dan Allen, who died of AIDS in April 1985, is soon to be realized after a long legal struggle. On Dec. 10, probate court in San Francisco is scheduled to issue a settlement for Allen's estate. Half the money left by the former City College English teacher will fund scholarships and support gay studies at the college.

On Dec. 17, the Board of Governors of the college district will formalize the Dan Allen Memorial Committee as an ongoing group to administer the funds from the legacy, according to spokesperson Jack Collins. Collins, also an openly gay City College English teacher and a colleague of Allen's, is one of the principals in the settlement, as are author Richard Hall, and attorney Matthew Coles.

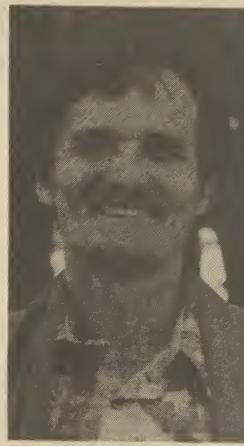
Hall, a former lover and close friend of Dan Allen's for 20 years, acted with Jerry Allen (no relation) as co-defendants with the college district in the suit Coles brought to see that the activist's intentions for his estate be completed.

The greatest problem, Coles explained, was that no written will could be found, even though Allen had shown to a friend a sealed envelope he said contained his will six months before his death. In his last few days, breathing on a respirator, he wrote that the will was in the bedroom of his Castro district home. Hall searched the place very thoroughly, but the document couldn't be found.

However, under California law, said Coles, a valid will may be recognized as existing if witnesses so testify, even though the paper itself cannot be produced. Proceeding on those grounds, Coles pressed the case. In the opinion of Hall, Collins, and Jerry Allen, the strong testimony of witnesses as to what they firmly believed were Dan Allen's intentions, persuaded the court to accept a settlement whose details had already been worked out in negotiations with Allen's family.

BEGAN GAY STUDIES

The terms were a 50 percent sharing of the money coming from the sale of Allen's house. The Dan Allen Memorial Committee will receive \$45,000 as



Dan Dulaney Allen

start-up money for its programs. Another feature of the settlement is an agreement that none of Allen's unpublished writings can be published without the family's consent. Gay San Franciscans might very well remember pieces by him in Vector, the magazine of the Society for Individual Rights.

This proviso and the original intent of Allen's family—to claim his entire estate—have especially angered Hall, himself an author (*Butterscotch Prince, Letter from a Dead Uncle*). Hall claims that Allen's family had ignored Dan for years.

Hall remembered Dan Allen's coming out in 1972. "It was the hardest decision Dan ever made to volunteer as faculty adviser to a brand new gay student group at City College," he said. "Dan was 43 at the time and had played the game of career closetry all his life."

Hall went on to recount how that decision led to the founding, with another openly gay instructor, Don Liles, of a gay and les-

bian literature course. It was tried in an experimental setting first but quickly accepted as a credit course in the regular curriculum. Collins added that the course "has stayed steadily among the offerings since 1972 and has served hundreds of students."

Collins projected that the most probable role for the advisory committee will be to generate and consider proposals which could build a gay studies program at City College. He hoped for contributions from several disciplines, such as history and sociology.

Collins was especially emphatic that the committee would do all in its power to ensure that such a program be funded by the college district, with supplemental money from the Memorial Fund being used for special needs. One of those needs was a video library.

A decision has already been made to use 50 percent of the money for scholarships and the other half for special needs the committee approves of. It is already set that representation on the group will come from administration, counselors, faculty, and students, with every effort made to preserve sex parity. A constantly operating campaign for additional funds is also being planned.

Coles was lavish in his praise for the college district's determination to stay with and win the case. "I think they deserve credit. They had the guts to see it through," he commented.

Coles characterized this probate procedure as highly unusual and risky, with the desired outcome brought about because "Allen's alleged intent made the greater sense to the people who counted." However, he concluded that all the litigation could have been avoided if a proper will had been prepared and an executor named.

Cop Sues

(Continued from page 1)

people who file complaints against them. But such an action requires special circumstances. "Police can file defamation cases against complainants," said Crew, "but only if someone falsely and maliciously filed the complaint."

In this case, he said, "it's hard to conclude that the complaint was false and malicious since the OCC has invested six months looking into it and held hearings on it." Considering the OCC's workload and the relatively small number of cases it pursues, "there must be something there" for the agency to take the case this far, he said.

Schell said that this Small Claims Court suit did not even follow the rules for such an action. "This suit does not fall

within the guidelines (for Small Claims). The officer made no (prior) demand on the defendant. It is erroneous and meant to further intimidate my client," he said.

Although Crew had not seen such a case in San Francisco until now, he told Bay Area Reporter that police groups across the U.S. were urging their members to file defamation suits against people who claim to have been mistreated by police.

But such a tactic can boomerang on the officer. "It can leave the officer open to abuse of process suits if it's frivolous. You can be found to have liability for filing frivolous lawsuits," said Crew.

Crew also questioned what this meant in terms of SFPD policy toward the OCC. "The department and officers have never liked the OCC from its beginning. They have opposed it, obstructed it, litigated against it. But the official policy is to co-

operate fully with the OCC. But I doubt this can be considered full co-operation," said Crew.

Harassment of transsexuals by police in the Tenderloin is common, according to Schell and others. They are frequently assumed to be prostitutes.

But the victim in this case wants nothing again to do with cops. "I live in fear," she says. "Everytime I see a police car coming I dodge it. If I go out, I make sure I have a companion. I won't go out alone."

Schell criticized the officer for doing more damage to his client. "To be a victim of alleged police brutality is one of the most terrifying experiences imaginable. To be sued for attempting to seek redress for your injuries heightens the fear and escalates the post-traumatic stress disorders. The conduct of the accused officers in this case can only be termed as unconscionable," he said.

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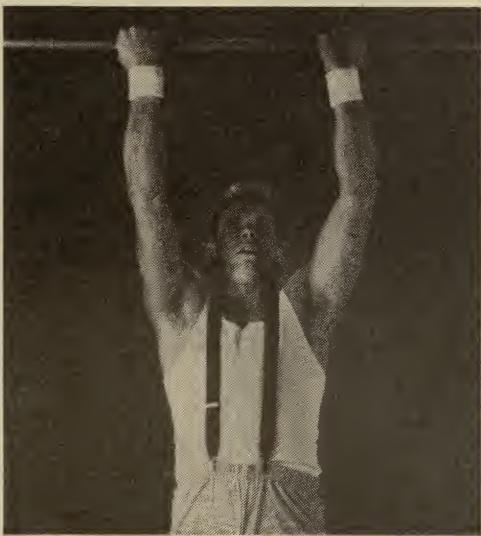
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BACK ATTACK?



The high bar has always been my favorite event, but at last year's Gay Games II, I was working my routine with the precision of a laser when my back locked tighter than Fort Knox. It was a "BACK ATTACK." I'd heard other gymnasts discuss this dreaded experience, but for me it was the first. My primal posture persisted for several days and finally my boyfriend recommended a visit to Cathedral Hill Chiropractic. After a series of visits over the course of a week, I'm feeling great. This "BACK ATTACK" thing is certainly a new twist, but at least the doctors at Cathedral Hill Chiropractic certainly know how to straighten it out.

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Daring To Stay Alive

HIV Treatment Options Complex, Improving

by Paul Reed

PART II: DECIDING ON TREATMENT

Editor's Note: This is the second of a two-part feature on the activities and message of Project Inform, the San Francisco-based informational clearinghouse on AIDS testing and treatment. The first part of the feature appeared in last week's issue of the Bay Area Reporter (Dec. 3).

In the world of AIDS treatment, all is no longer doom and gloom. If we were to divide the AIDS epidemic into phases, we might say that we have now left the "era of mystery" and entered the "age of treatment." For two years, Project Inform has played a vital role in this age of treatment, urging an aggressive approach to treating AIDS-virus infection. They stress that the belief that "there's nothing you can do about AIDS infection" is now out-of-date—dangerously so.

"There are things an individual can do, and there will be many more in the near future," state Project Inform directors Martin Delaney and Joe Brewer. "The repeated message in the media about the hopelessness of AIDS is completely out-of-date. In fact, it was never true," they say.

"In the field of treatment research and clinical strategy, the goal at present is clear—to turn AIDS into a manageable chronic illness," says Brewer.

The very first line of defense against AIDS, according to Project Inform, is for an individual to discover whether or not he has been infected. Testing should be confidential and voluntary, they advise. (The necessity and interpretation of AIDS antibody testing was covered in Part I of this series.)

SOME CRUCIAL NUMBERS

Once you have learned that you are antibody-positive, Project Inform advises that a full immunological workup be done by your doctor—especially the laboratory test for the absolute number of T4-helper cells. It is also the appropriate time to seek out anti-viral medications, Project Inform says. Since HIV infection is progressive, anti-viral treatment is clearly the prescription.

This test can be performed (or ordered) by any physician. The T4-helper cell is the immune system cell that the AIDS virus attacks, and over time, destroys. As infection with the AIDS virus progresses, the number of T4-cells decreases, thus crippling the immune system and opening the way for attack by the opportunistic infections that are the hallmark of AIDS and ARC.

"The most important number in all this is the absolute T4-helper cell count," says Brewer, a gay San Francisco psychotherapist. "You should immediately chart that number and continue to be re-tested for T-cell counts at regular intervals, usually every three or four months."

According to Brewer, charting one's T-cell count at regular intervals is the best means available for an individual to monitor the health of his immune system. "What you want to look for here is the overall trend," he says. "There is a strong correlation between the decline in T4-helper cells and the onset of symptoms of AIDS or ARC."

Trend monitoring, then, is the key to interpreting one's status with regard to possible development of AIDS or ARC. "It's important to monitor trends rather than going on just one test," adds Delaney, co-director of Project Inform.

"T-cell counts vary, going up and down over time, but the real

point of concern is when that trend is a downward trend," he says.

The absolute numbers, then, are crucial in planning one's health strategy, according to Project Inform. They base their observations of what is normal and what is dangerous on clinical evidence—trends noted and reported by physicians and medical researchers in practice and in medical journals.

According to the current medical interpretation, then, if the number stays below approximately 500, it should definitely be seen as a serious warning sign and as the impetus for taking action. A general trend in the area of 200 cells or below signals the greatest risk, as it is closely correlated with the onset of AIDS-defining opportunistic infections.

"Try not to set up any psychological barriers," Delaney adds. "No one number should be seen as a crucial barrier. But any consistent downward trend within these general numbers should be seen as plain, clinical evidence that the HIV virus is destroying T-cells and should be addressed by treatment."

OPTIONS IMPROVING

Once a downward trend is observed, then, what can you do? The old message of hopelessness has pervaded the gay community, driven by the seemingly mistaken belief that there was very little that a person could do. Project Inform says that this has never been true, and that options for treatment are improving rapidly.

"The T-cell test can help you decide when it's time to do something in terms of immunomodulator treatment," Brewer says. "If the helper cell number regularly falls below 500, or is declining towards 500, you should start to think about immune modulators. And if the trend of the helper cell numbers is below 200, prophylactic measures come into the picture," such as the recently developed aerosolized pentamidine treatment or other antibiotics to help in preventing pneumocystis pneumonia.

"These treatments have proven useful to prevent recurrence of pneumocystis pneumonia in those who've had the illness," states Delaney. "They are just as likely to prevent it in the first occurrence."

Deciding on treatment is a decision that is not only crucially important but that is often done in a seeming vacuum of medical and social support. Because only the drug AZT has been licensed by the Food and Drug Administration for use in treatment of HIV infection, the many other available treatments

are often maligned as useless or of minimal value.

According to both Brewer and Delaney, reaching a decision to treat one's HIV infection with substances that are as yet unapproved or unproven is sometimes difficult, but need not be so. Individuals should understand that the restrictions placed on physicians create a situation in which doctors are, more often than not, unwilling to recommend any treatment other than the federally-approved treatment with AZT.

With non-standard treatments available, the individual must often inform the doctor what treatments he intends to take, then ask the doctor to help with necessary prescriptions and lab tests to monitor and safeguard his treatment program.

Project Inform is not in the business of making such decisions for individuals, but rather in guiding them by providing the latest and best information about available treatments for AIDS, ARC, and asymptomatic HIV infection. They provide information on each available substance—through information packets available by phoning them and through "town meetings" held in recent months to standing-room-only crowds. (The next scheduled meeting is Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco.)

TYPES OF TREATMENT

The substances currently available to individuals are of three types. First are anti-virals, intended to cripple or slow the activity and spread of the AIDS virus in the body. Project Inform reports that several anti-viral drugs have demonstrated the ability to slow the progression of the virus, both in the test tube and in real people. Of these, the best known is AZT, already licensed as an AIDS treatment. It provides many possible benefits, but at high risk of side effects.

AL721, a food-like substance, is another that is popular right now. Preliminary test results look promising. Because AL721 is non-toxic, it represents a good, low-risk choice for many, especially for those unwilling to compromise their existing health with more toxic chemicals.

Ribavirin, a wide-spectrum anti-viral available in Mexico and once the most widely used AIDS drug, has perhaps the largest body of research behind it and has shown promise in most trials. Project Inform reports that early in 1987, the Food and Drug Administration made charges against the drug, scaring people away from it. Eight months later, the charges were quietly withdrawn. Yet, most doctors remain

(Continued on next page)

Inform

(Continued from previous page)

either uninformed or misinformed about it. Ribavirin is once again the subject of new research.

Acyclovir is an existing prescription drug used for herpes and as an adjunct to other antivirals. It is believed to help with symptoms such as hairy leukoplakia.

One of the most recent promising prospects is from Japan. Called dextran sulfate, laboratory studies look very promising and the drug is quickly being pushed into human trials. Many people are already importing dextran sulfate from overseas, where it is sold as a non-toxic, over-the-counter product.

The second group of substances are known as immunomodulators, medications that are thought to stimulate the immune system, leading generally to an increase in T4-cell production. At least four such drugs are currently available.

Of these, the drug DTC appears to boost T-cells and is available as a commercial chemical. The prescription drug Antabuse breaks down into DTC in the liver and it is expected to provide the same benefits as DTC itself.

DNCB is another substance in this category. It is an inexpensive chemical available through the "guerilla clinics" and by individual purchase, and Project Inform reports that DNCB has already been used by thousands to treat the lesions of Kaposi's sarcoma, as well as to stimulate the immune system.

Isoprinosine, another immunomodulator and one of the first drugs researched for AIDS, is available in Mexico and continues to be the subject of worldwide research.

Naltrexone is another drug being used as an immune modulator. When used in very small amounts at the right time of day, it is believed to produce a general "toning up" of the immune system by way of the endorphine, a hormonal brain secretion.

The third type of treatment is prophylactic, and includes aerosolized Pentamidine, a prescription drug breathed in by the patient and thought to be useful in the prevention of pneumocystis pneumonia.

EDUCATE YOURSELF

Project Inform's list doesn't include every substance currently being marketed as an AIDS treatment, however. Instead, treatments make the list only when they meet the three-fold criteria

of established safety, availability, and a reasonable expectation of effectiveness, as determined by objective research.

Project Inform counsels strongly that individuals should acquaint themselves with these substances by researching them, then make a decision on a personal course of treatment. Information packets on these substances are available by calling Project Inform.

"Up until recently, most people did not know that these treatment substances were available—or were in widespread use as they are," Delaney points out. "It may make all the difference if the community—and if individuals—can see that there is indeed something you can do about HIV infection. It's not a hopeless situation. It's not a matter of waiting to see what happens next. It's a matter of getting busy and taking action right now, before the infection progresses any further."

Cooperation of a physician is important, according to Brewer and Delaney. Once you commence a treatment plan, you will need to have the full services of a physician and laboratory tests to monitor progress. If one's physician is not cooperative and will not support an aggressive treatment plan against HIV infection, then work out an alternative.

"Doctors are sometimes unaware or ill-informed about these available treatment strategies," Delaney adds, "in part, because these strategies are new and are developing as we speak, but also because the legalities and liabilities of practicing medicine these days have got doctors spooked."

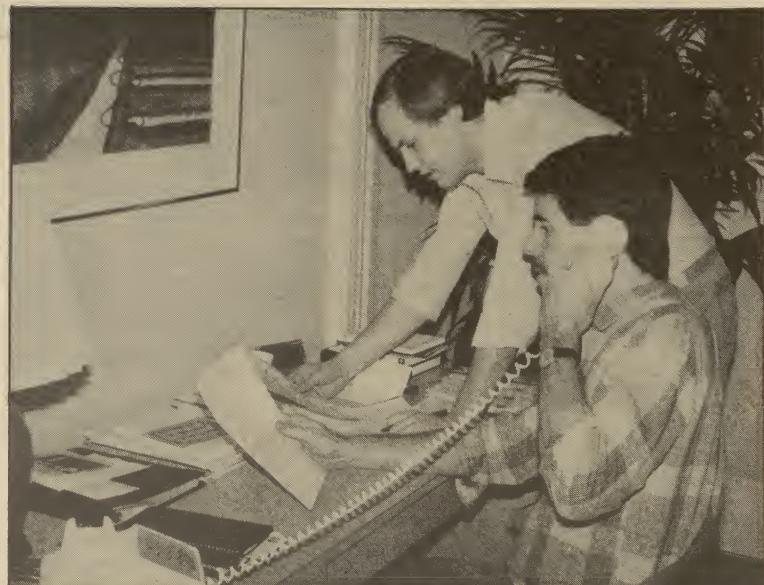
DECISION TREE

Commencing treatment is the all-important step, once an individual has determined from T-cell monitoring that it's time to take action. Brewer stresses that "the critical decision is getting yourself from a point of doing nothing to doing something. And remember that what you are doing can change as new treatments open up."

"There's no way anyone can tell you exactly what to do with certainty," says Delaney. "You're juggling a number of things at once and have to decide based on what fits best for your situation. Different people need different choices."

The choice of treatments is determined by several factors, including a person's financial resources, his overall condition and starting T-cell counts, past treatment experiences, and a personal risk/benefit analysis.

Reaching that decision is dif-



Martin Delaney (l.) and Joe Brewer of Project Inform

(Photo: Rink)

ficult, and individuals are often at a loss as to how to decide among the different treatment options. But the "decision tree," as Brewer and Delaney call it, can be seen as simply as process of elimination.

More serious conditions require different approaches. For example, someone whose T-cells are consistently below 200 should definitely consider the aerosolized pentamidine treatment and the most aggressive choice of available drugs. Someone who is steadily within or above the "danger zone" around 500 may seek to use "softer" approaches which are least toxic, such as ALT21 and Naltrexone.

But they warn that no one is going to give a definite, clear answer with any certainty. "With

regard to certainty, everyone is frightened," says Brewer.

But, he adds, "We don't have the time to await the certainty that will come with repeated clinical trials. Since time is the only real variable in the potential progression towards serious ARC and AIDS, it's most essential to do something—anything with reasonable justification that it might work—as soon as possible."

The strategy advised by Project Inform, then, is based on the assumption that by treating HIV infection as soon as possible, individuals can delay the progress towards infection. By keeping informed and making changes as newer and better treatments become available, infected individuals may be able to literally "buy time" until a thoroughly ef-

fective treatment or cure is found.

"The goal here is simple," says Brewer. "Use existing therapies to hold your ground as new and better medications are found." •

Project Inform

Project Inform is an organization that provides information about treatment approaches for AIDS, ARC, and HIV infection. Information packets are available for the asking, by phoning: (415) 928-0293 (local); California toll free (800) 334-7422; and National toll free (800) 822-7422. Or write Project Inform, 25 Taylor St., Suite 618, San Francisco, CA 94102. •

AFL-CIO Supports PWA Rights

A comprehensive AIDS resolution passed the recent 17th Biennial AFL-CIO Convention in Miami, Florida, Oct. 26-29. Submitted by the Service Employees International Union, the resolution calls for "additional funding to support AIDS research, education, and health and social services."

The AFL-CIO also declared strong support for the rights of persons with AIDS: "Persons with AIDS should be allowed to work as long as they are able to, and as long as they desire to continue at their jobs. AIDS should be classified as a disability and handicap under the state and federal laws to provide AIDS patients with legal protections from work-related AIDS discrimination."

Finally, the national labor federation took a strong stand against mandatory HIV testing,

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DEATHS

Alan Rockway

Dr. Alan Rockway, Ph.D., 44, clinical psychologist, co-author of the famed Dade County "Anita Bryant" Sexual Preference Rights Ordinance, founding member of The Bisexual Center, and the inspiration behind Bi-pol, the bisexual political action group of the Bay Area, and former Director of The Pacific Center, died peacefully Nov. 10, surrounded by family, friends, and his dog Sheba after a battle with AIDS. Alan will be remembered for his irreverence, chutzpah, dedicated political organizing, and unwavering stand for the underdog. He was very outspoken and a prolific letter-to-the-editor writer. He had a cynicism about what is, combined with an optimism for



what can be. Alan held the belief that love is the driving force to all politics and that liberation is the cornerstone of emotional health.

Alan's family want to especially thank his dear friends, Hospice of San Francisco, Shanti, and the Open Hand for their loving support and help during this trying period.

A multi-media event celebrating Alan's life will be held Dec. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. at 153 Liberty St. in San Francisco. Alan, we will miss your sparkling eyes, and warm and affectionate smile. Bi for now and always. •

Edward Briggs

With regret the immediate family and loving friends of David Edward Briggs, 12-year resident of San Francisco, announce his passing Nov. 25 of AIDS.

David was born Oct. 10, 1955, in Sacramento, CA. He was the son of Nancy Newton-Briggs of Fresno, and the late Harold H. Briggs. He is also survived by

sister Teresa and brother Cory, also of Fresno.

A graduate of Hoover High in Fresno, David was a six-year MP in the Air National Guard, and a 14-year employee of the Safeway Corporation. Disposition was Dec. 6 at Point Reyes, and a wake by invitation will follow.

low, at his request, for close friends and family.

Well known and respected, may his spirit rest in peace. We love you and shall painfully miss you.

In memoriam donations in his name may be made to the Shanti Project, to whom he volunteered his teachings, time, and concern.

Good-Bye, dear, dear friend. •

L. Scott Delaney

This man was a good man. This man was a kind man. This man, born on Oct. 2, 1953, was taken from us on Nov. 14, 1987 after a five-year struggle with AIDS. Even in the face of great pain and wasting, this man faced the horror with a dignity, humor, and a concern for those he loved that was astonishing.

This man was a loved man. Scott passed away at home, in the care of his mother Jayne, his sisters Linda and Lisa, his lover of eight years John Coffey, and sadly leaves behind his sisters Michele and Karen, brothers Fred, Gary, Randy, Mike, Ron, Philip, Deryl, and many good loving friends, probably more than he ever realized.

This man is in good company. Scott was buried in Hollywood's Forest Lawn, near Liberace and the final home of Bette Davis.

This man's absence is a great void, but it will not last forever. It will only last until, one by one, we leave this earth to be with him again.

Scott, you're home for good now. Leave a light on for us, okay? •

Jerry Lee Spooner

July 8, 1955—Dec. 6, 1987

Jerry slipped gently into sleep Sunday morning circled by his friends at Coming Home Hospice. Just as Jerry passed away, the sun came out after weeks of being absent. I was at home, and our black cat "Banjo" started meowing around my feet, and crying, as if she was trying to tell me something. I picked her up and asked her if she knew something we didn't. Just as I got the words out, the phone rang, and it was the news of Jerry's passing. The last time I saw my friend Jerry was the night before. His face was bathed in the golden, full-moon light, as I said goodbye and left. A fitting tribute to a moonchild.

Jerry was a very intense person—strong willed, quick tempered, and a razor-sharp tongue that he knew how to use. He had been in San Francisco ten years and worked as the manager and head floral designer at the Westlake Flower Shop. He worked briefly at Kearns Flower Mart. He was well known SOM for his leather and cowboy drag. He loved the Powerhouse, SF Eagle, and the Castro Station. Partying and flowers, along with a good measure of fleamarketing, were his life. Please make any contributions in Jerry's name to Coming Home Hospice. •

This man is in good company. Scott was buried in Hollywood's Forest Lawn, near Liberace and the final home of Bette Davis.

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Scott, you're home for good now. Leave a light on for us, okay? •

Joseph Vincent Vesely

4/21/56—12/4/87

Joe Vesely passed away peacefully in his beautiful home on Sutter Street, his lover Bruce, and his dog Kenna by his side. He was 31.

Joe was diagnosed with AIDS more than three-and-a-half years ago. A stubborn and courageous hero, he was sustained by his love for life, an amazing inner strength, and by the affection of his family and friends. He was an intelligent, outspoken, generous, and charming man who fought bravely against the odds and often triumphed.

Originally born and raised in St. Petersburg, FL, Joe attended college and worked in Washington, DC. from 1975 to 1978, then moved to New York City, managed a store on Fire Island, and also worked

for the Bank of New York. Since 1981, his happiest days were spent in San Francisco, where he worked for the local agency of the Bank of Montreal, and later became a prominent employee of Atlas Savings and Loan.

Joe is survived by his mother, Mrs. Clara Pearson, and his sister Lisa Pearson of St. Petersburg; his close friends Lew, Cliff, and Mac in San Francisco, Cliff and Robert in New York, and Terry in Washington, D.C. His passing is felt with great sadness by dozens of friends on both coasts and in Canada and Europe.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Dec. 12, at 3 p.m., 1465 Valencia St. (at 26th St.) followed by a reception at Joe's home.

Donations may be made in Joe's memory to Coming Home Hospice, 225 30th St., SF 94112.

Dear Joseph, you fought the good fight and we are so proud of you. We love you. •

Norman E. Woodruff

Norman died of AIDS complications at home on Wednesday, Dec. 2. He was a native of California and had called San Francisco his home for more than 20 years. A career as a radio news personality led to positions with KCBS, KOTI, and other stations nationwide. Norman is remembered for his strength of character, his unfaltering faith in people, and his wonderful voice.

We'll miss him, but in his words, "All is well."

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of San Francisco. A memorial gathering will occur at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 2750 Market St. #201 in San Francisco. •

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

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City/State/Zip _____

Names Quilt Set For National Tour

The National AIDS Memorial Quilt, returning home from its inaugural display in Washington, D.C., will be displayed at Moscone Center, Thursday, Dec. 17 through Sunday, Dec. 20, sponsored by the San Francisco Examiner and CBS affiliate KPIX-TV. The Giant Names Project quilt is a national memorial to the tens of thousands of Americans lost to AIDS.



The quilt will be home for the holidays

In conjunction with the display, KPIX will host a one-hour prime time special Dec. 18, live from Moscone Center. Entitled "Threads of Love," the special will focus on outstanding examples of AIDS volunteerism in the Bay Area, and will feature a historical background on the quilt.

The quilt, the size of two football fields when it was displayed during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, has continued to grow in size as hundreds of new quilt panels have arrived from across the country.

The memorial, designed and constructed by lovers, family and friends of those who have died of AIDS, is composed of thousands of 3' x 6' fabric panels, each bearing the name of a single person lost to AIDS.

After the San Francisco display the quilt will be prepared for a national tour of the 24 largest U.S. cities this spring. NAMES Chapters are being formed in many cities across the country to assist with the national tour and to provide local assistance in building the quilt.

Funds raised from the national tour will stay in the communities

in which the quilt is displayed to support local organizations providing direct services to people with AIDS and others facing the epidemic. Major corporations and foundations are being approached to underwrite costs of the tour.

The NAMES Project is an ongoing project, growing as the epidemic continues, the visual reminder that behind the numbers, are the names.

The San Francisco workshop is open seven days a week and accepting panels to be included in the national tour. For more information call (415) 863-5511. •

City Goes Gay For Holidays

A Brief Tour of Wonderland

by Allen White

Sunday evening (Dec. 13) at 6 p.m. the lighting of the Castro's Christmas Tree will take place at 18th and Castro. The tree, as has happened for the last several years, will be dedicated to friends who have died from AIDS. The lighting of the tree also signals the beginning of the Christmas season in San Francisco's gay community.



The window at One The Rack

(Photo: S. Savage)

As people plan parties, Christmas concerts and family gatherings, they also are starting to take time to explore the many colorful boulevards of Gay San Francisco. The tour is quite a treat. As night falls across the city, Castro, Polk and Haight Street are transformed into wonderlands of colored lights.

Christmas trees with their twinkling lights are everywhere. On Polk Street the Polk Gulch, the Giraffe and the QT, take on a new look with their colorful trees. Even that emporium of lust, Le Salon, is celebrating the holidays with a tree in their window.

The Headlines stores in the Polk and the Castro are a delight to behold. Their windows are decorated for the holidays with snow scenes and the presence of elves and puppets announcing the stores' gay toyland atmosphere. Entering the stores is as much an entertainment experience as a shopping tour.

One of this year's most striking windows in the Castro is a Jewish delicatessen. Mueller's sports a delightful big snowman surrounded with decorations and colorful lights. Across the street is the newly opened A Different Light Bookstore.

Different Light is one of many new bookstores in the area. At 18th and Castro is the Love That Dares bookstore. Their windows are possibly the most politically correct with trees in one window and the other tastefully decorated in blue and white with a Star of David. The first gay bookstore in the area, the Walt Whitman bookstore on Market near Noe, has constantly changing windows reflecting gay authors and literature.

A walk down Castro is to see such uniquely gay stores as Mainline Gifts where everyday seems to be Christmas. Just up the street towards 19th Street is Brand X with a window displaying their wide selection of an-



A window on Castro Street

(Photo: S. Savage)

tiques in a holiday setting. On 19th Street, Java Road takes on a new look with green holiday lighting and the Castro Village Wine Company follows through on the green look.

18th Street in the Castro is a boulevard of lights. There are sparkling lights in the trees along the street. They seem to frame the many trees and lights in bars. Moby Dick has two beautiful white trees while across the street the Village is a bevy of colorful lights. Up the block All That Jazz has decorated their store with poinsettia plants.

Possibly the most creative street in San Francisco is Haight Street. Forma is just one of the stores with unique window decorations. Revival of the Fittest combines Christmas with the art deco look. Santa Claus is in the window of the Golden Gate Floral

(Continued on page 22)

Let There Be Lights!

It's Christmas Tree time again in the Castro!

On Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7 a.m., the Eureka Valley Merchants Association and the Names Project will sponsor a Christmas Tree decoration project. The EVMA/Names Project tree will be located at 18th and Castro Sts., in front of Hibernia Bank.

The tree will be lit on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. and will be dedicated by Rev. Jim Mitulski of the Eureka Valley Metropolitan Community Church and Rev. Anthony McGuire of the Most Holy Redeemer Church. But there will be a lot of fun and appropriate thoughts before the tree lighting.

The tree will be delivered at

Hibernia Beach on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7 a.m. Anyone who wishes to help in raising the tree should be at 18th and Castro at 7 a.m. At 8 p.m. that night, the top lights and ornaments which have been collected will be hung on the tree.

Community members are urged to come to the tree after 12 Noon on the 12th to bring an ornament in memory of a friend and/or loved one who has died of AIDS. If you can't make the decoration party, you may drop your ornaments at the following locations: The Names Project at Market and Castro; Cliff's Variety, 479 Castro; Hibernia Bank, 18th and Castro and Pak Mail, 584 Castro.

An Urgent Appeal from Shanti Project

With more than three new cases of AIDS being diagnosed in San Francisco each day, Shanti Project is in critical need of volunteers to provide emotional and practical support to people with AIDS and their loved ones.

Currently, all of our 500 volunteers are at near full capacity. In order to avoid a waiting list for the people we serve, we

Volunteers Needed

The next Emotional Support Training will begin the weekend of February 5th and continue on February 12th.

A Practical Support Training is the weekend of January 29th.

To Volunteer, please call Shanti Project at 777-CARE.

need a minimum of 70 new volunteers for each training.

One way to show that you care about what is happening in our community is to volunteer your time each week through Shanti Project.



**SHANTI
PROJECT**



The window at Headlines

(Photo: S. Savage)

Who What Where Why What What When Where Why What What When Where



Bingo!

\$20,000 was split between Coming Home Hospice (\$12,000), the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank (\$4,000), and the AIDS Emergency Fund (\$4,000) Dec. 3 from the proceeds at Bingo night at Most Holy Redeemer (Photo: Rink)

Supreme Court Reunion

There will be an evaluation and discussion of the Civil Disobedience in Washington at the Supreme Court, on Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka from 3-6 p.m. There also will be a discussion of where do we go from here, what next, etc.

This is open for all participants in the CD, and those who went through the training but were unable to come to Washington.

For more information call 552-5857.

Sponsored by the CD Committee of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights and the Non-Compliance Project.



Pigs In Paradise!

Hank Cook (ctr. r.) of the AIDS Emergency Fund and Officer Sally DeHaven (ctr. l.), president of the Golden State Police Officers Association, accepted checks representing their share of the proceeds from the Pigs in Paradise fundraiser held recently from (l. to r.) Bill Camilo of C & M Productions, Deputy Paul Click, director of the GSPOA, Deputy Richard Ridgway, vice president of the GSPOA, Deputy Dean Gross, secretary of the GSPOA, and Bobby Moske of C & M Productions (Photo: J. Dusch)

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AIDS Activists To Hold Protest Strategy Session

A newly formed national coalition of AIDS activists has called for a week of national protest from April 29 to May 7. Local organizing is being spearheaded by the AIDS Action Pledge, and anyone interested in becoming involved in the week of protest is encouraged to attend a meeting Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St. in San Francisco.

Also on the agenda that evening will be the unveiling of plans for a January action at Burroughs-Wellcome in Burlingame. For more information about AAP and the meeting call 821-9087 or write AIDS Action Pledge, 158-A Lexington St., S.F., 94110.

Resources: A New AIDS/ARC Group

For persons with AIDS/ARC, it is a debilitating experience for them to have to travel to one organization for food, and then to go to another for clothing, and then to another for help to find adequate housing. People with AIDS/ARC are, for the most part, financially and mentally unable to cope with this need to trek to various establishments. It is physically a problem.

Resources, which opened Nov. 30, is a volunteer organization designed to provide these services at one location. Resources will provide a food bank, clothing closet, a reading/video library, housing referrals and assistance for other basic everyday living needs.

Resources is located at 597 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. The telephone number is 626-3560. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. as well as Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

FCC Rules Sex Talk Only After Midnight

Safe Time for Adult Shows; Broadcasters Call Standard Vague

by Miranda Kolbe

If you are looking for any risqué radio, try between midnight and 6 a.m. Those hours have been ruled by the FCC as acceptable for the broadcasting of "indecent material." Programs may be aired during that time without threat of penalty as long as they are preceded by a warning, ruled the federal agency Nov. 24.

Termed a "safe harbor," this time was established in response to petitions filed by the National Association of Broadcasters and fifteen other broadcasting groups. They charged that in April the FCC had unconstitutionally disregarded broadcasters' First Amendment rights to air programs.

In April, the FCC decided that there was still a risk of children remaining in the listening audience after 10 p.m. They decided to revoke their previously established "safe harbor" of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. The FCC placed the burden of proof on broadcasters to demonstrate that they were reasonably sure children would not be in the audience when stations aired programs with material that could be labelled indecent.

In a recent press release, the FCC stated that "parents should be expected to supervise whatever children remain in the audience after midnight."

7 DIRTY WORDS

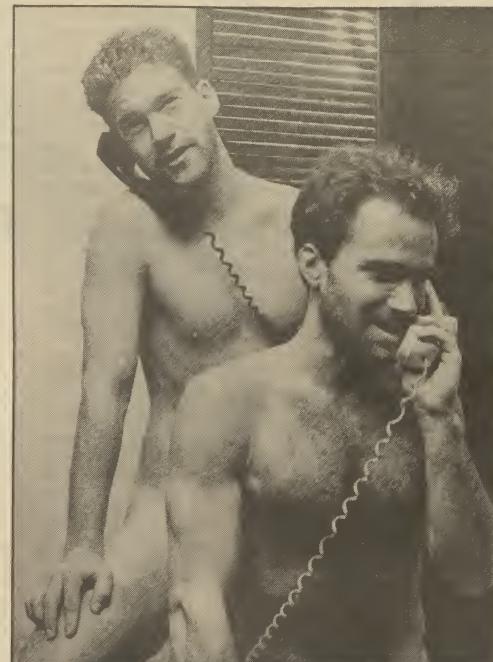
Malcolm Gault-Williams, station manager at KCSB-FM in Santa Barbara, believes the ruling won't dramatically alter his station's programming. "It just closes our window from 10 p.m. to midnight," he said, "We can still air shows between midnight and six a.m."

However, David Salniker, executive director of Berkeley-based Pacifica Radio, feels it will affect his station. "A lot of our programs—talk shows, political analyses, readings—that had sensitive language were scheduled for after 10 p.m. The audience for those shows just doesn't exist after midnight," Salniker said.

Also in response to the petitions, the FCC reiterated its April decision to promote a stricter policy regarding indecency. Prior to April, there was common belief among broadcasters that the FCC wouldn't cite anyone unless they used one of the "seven dirty words" made famous in the 1978 *Pacifica* Supreme Court case. (Those words are: cocksucker, fuck, motherfucker, cunt, piss, shit and tit.)

In April the FCC decided to enforce a broader definition of indecency. According to that definition, indecency is "material that depicts or describes, in terms patently offensive as measured by contemporary community standards for the broadcast medium, sexual or excretory activities or organs."

Petitioners complained that this definition was so vague as to be unconstitutional. However, the FCC refused to make its definition more concrete. In a recent



Complaints about the radio play *Jerker* originally got the FCC on the trail
(Photo: D. Manza)

press release, the agency stated, "There is no way to construct a definitive list [of indecent material] that would be comprehensive and not over-inclusive in the abstract, without reference to the specific context."

The Commission added that it would judge indecency by employing the standards of "an average adult broadcast viewer or listener." They said that in determining whether material was obscene "each member would draw upon his or her 'general expertise in broadcast matters.'

An FCC representative who asked not to be named said, "There really is no laundry list of words or pictures that are considered indecent. If you have a movie that's been run by one station, it may be cited for indecency, while if it's run by another station at a different time of day, or is cut in different ways, it might be okay."

Most broadcasters don't feel affected by the FCC's stance. Andy Bloom, program director of WYSP-FM, one of the three stations cited for indecency in April,

(Continued on next page)

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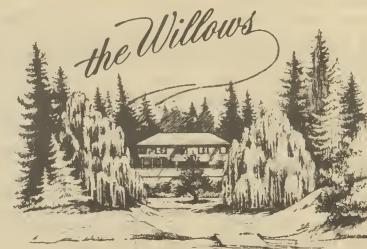
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What Ever Happened To...

ANAMNESIS MUSED (A Wondering Nose)

I was going through an old filing cabinet the other day—well, actually it was a cardboard box about which my spouse said, "Either it goes or you do!"—and the contents got me to thinking (which, at times, can be disastrous) about the not too distant past.

The first thing I came across was an invitation to the Billy DeFrank Camp Awards, Sept. 23, 1978, at the Zephyr Lounge. How many of you can remember where the proceeds from that event went? Well, they were used in the fight against the Briggs Initiative, Proposition 6! And way before Bartles & Jaymes, Billy ended his invitation with, "Thank you for your support!"

This bit of nostalgia made me wonder about a lot of why's and where's. Permit me, if you will, a bit of "stream of consciousness" meandering and questioning.

How come there aren't any more Camp Awards? Is life now just too serious to relax in an evening of fun and frolic and loving putdowns?

The Trashy Trish Awards were always quite festive. Will there ever be any more?

We used to have a Mr. & Miss Gay, and Foxy Lady of Alameda County. They were camp titles, of course, but some who won were quite influential in the gay populace. Are those titles so tied up in political red tape that they can't be brought back to existence?

An extremely elite group exists. Those who won the Outstanding Heart of Oakland. I believe there were only four so honored in as many years. Of course, that award was in conjunction with the Red & White Ball—which is no more, either. Why can't some enterprising

group reinstate that tradition? How many can name the last reigning King and Queen of Hearts?

There has never been a group like the Hayward Cocketees. They had no political bullshit. They had no titles. They had no axe to grind. But, they did raise a lot of money for charitable purposes. Will they ever regroup?

Even the most recent T&C Dollies are no more. Is no one interested in replacing those that have dematerialized?

Hands Across The Bay buttons. Ah, yes, one of the fundraisers for the first Oakland float in the Freedom Day Parade. Anyone still have one? With a winning number?

Death, duty, and divorce notwithstanding, what ever happened to those who purported to uphold the rights and dignity of all gays in Alameda County? Where are the Ladies April, Llari, and Randy? What ever happened to Rick Woolley? Taco Tony? Emperors Don and Paul? Agnus? Ruth Ann? Elaine Wallace? Rarely seen at any function anymore are the Empresses Billy and Johnny. How come? Is Nova Lei afraid to return to the area? And how about all the bartenders who made their mark (interpret that in all ways!) and are never seen or heard from again?

The list could go on and on, but it certainly makes one wonder just why some people, who, after working for and enjoying the limelight and their titles for a time, forget all about those who did the supporting and disappear, stealthily, into the night.

Thomas Wolfe said, "You can't go home again." I wish that he would have said, "You shouldn't go through old files again."

SALMAGUNDI
(A Motley Nose)

Thumbing through a new acquisition (Mrs. Byrne's Dictionary, a collection of unusual, obscure, and preposterous words by Jascha Heifetz' mother), I'm curious as to how many of you are afflicted with onychophagy (on-i-kof-e-je)? Definition to follow.

Plaudits and kudos, once again, to the staff, management, and customers of Bench & Bar. Through their seemingly tireless efforts, an additional \$1000, from door cover charges and various donations, was given to East Bay Assistance Fund. A tip of Nez's nose to Bobby McManus for his continuing efforts.

And, don't forget the Casino Royale at Bench & Bar this Sunday, Dec. 13, starting after 2:30 p.m. Proceeds from this gaming event will benefit Bay Area Shepard House and In Memory Foundation.

The Town & Country will be closed to the public from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 20, for an "in-house" Christmas Party. After 4 p.m., it will be business as usual, with entertainers Pauline (singing) and Jim Brown (piano) from 6 to 9 p.m.

Chris M. asked me the other day if I had heard anything about Little Mother's upcoming dinner that he was supposed to help cook. It was to have been a combination Mexican/Filipino cuisine. I haven't heard anything about it . . . yet! I know that if and when it comes about and LM needs help, my phone will be ringing off the wall!

Poor Steve V. from T&C. It seems he tripped and fell through the floor-to-ceiling window in his (their) bedroom, landing on the sidewalk outside! Luckily, he and his spouse live on the ground floor. Steve is now sporting cuts, scratches, contusions and abrasions—and a bit of embarrassment, I suspect.

Congratulations to Manuel

Oliver. He won the best female in theme at the recent Coronation in Modesto. He was the only one from the ISE group to be recognized with a prize.

An "anonymous" phone call the other evening suggested that it might prove very interesting for yours truly to be present at the latest General Assembly meeting of ISE. It was held at Bella Napoli last Tuesday after my deadline, so I'll give you all the poop and scoop next issue.

Overheard at a Christmas party recently: Nez, what would you think of a bar owner who, according to a reliable source, refuses to allot any money for a Christmas tree? Too many people have no other place to go during the holidays, and the bar is their only sense of the Season. It's really a cheap shot at the customers.

Before I could give my usual succinct, but glib, reply, someone chimed in with, "Let's put up a petition-type thing where instead of ordering and drinking every other drink, slow down on the imbibing and put the money towards a community-customer tree. If we hit him where it hurts the most—the cash register—maybe he'll get the idea!"

Ah yes, dear reader, 'tis the Season to bring forth good will to all people . . . even bar owners!

Harumph! One of the self-addressed, stamped envelopes I enclosed in my invitations to be judged at the 8th Annual Chili Cook Off, was returned to me containing business matters, not an acceptance or rejection. Was it you, Tony?

Oncophagy? It simply means prone to nail biting (yours, not someone else's!).

Never put off until tomorrow that which you can get someone else to do today. I can smile at that!

Love, Nez



Gay Holidays

(Continued from page 19)

shop while a big clown graces the window of Coffee, Tea & Spice.

Trax is decorated in their annual tasteful decorations. Holiday wreaths cover the hanging lights over the bar to welcome people ready to begin their Christmas partying.

Over at the Galleon at 14th and Market the restaurant is a holiday wonderland. Puppets have been hung from the ceiling which is a sea of tiny white lights. Bob Sandner provides holiday music from Wednesday through Sunday and Momi Starr performs on Monday and Tuesday.

Down the street the Transfer bar has a "choo-choo" train running around the base of their colorfully decorated Christmas tree.

FCC Rules

(Continued from previous page)

excerpts were: "suck ass," "suck my balls," and "drink piss from his cock."

When asked whether the homosexual content of this program might have affected the FCC's decision, Salniker responded, "The FCC has always had a history of being more offended by gay sexuality, but we don't think that's the only reason we were cited. We think there were crass political motivations behind the FCC decision, that there was a lot of political pressure put on the FCC by conservative, so-called 'morality' groups."

While the other two stations cited at the same time were similarly warned that airing such programs in the future would make them liable for fines, or possibly, loss of their licenses, Pacifica was brought up for criminal charges of obscenity. These charges were eventually dropped, because the program was shown prior to the FCC's April 15 re-definition of indecency.

Pacifica is currently pursuing a case against the FCC in the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. Pacifica is hoping to have their warning for indecency revoked. "We don't think there should have been any warning against us," Salniker said. "The indecent language was aired after 10 p.m. which at that time was considered acceptable, and the program was preceded by a warning to our listeners. We feel we didn't get due process from the FCC."

There is some dissent at the FCC over its stance on indecency. FCC Commissioner Mimi Weyforth Dawson was quoted in Broadcasting magazine as saying, "I am troubled by this commission judging what is indecent for the nation. I think the question of whether certain broadcast material is indecent . . . is more appropriately determined by competent local authorities."

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THIS

FRIDAY 11

- Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale: holiday concert, Old First Church, Sacramento and Van Ness, S.F., 8 PM, \$6 in advance (tickets at Headlines), \$8 at the door. The music of Dunstable, Poulenc, and Vaughan Williams, plus traditional Christmas carols.

- The Pacific Chamber Singers: holiday concert dedicated to Eriwn Flath, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. The music of Bach, Brahms, Bloch, and Handel, plus early English carols; featuring mezzo-soprano Miriam Abramovitsch. All proceeds will be donated to the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Call 861-3104 for more information.

- Trocadero Transfer: 10th anniversary celebration, 520 4th St., S.F., party for cardholders and guests 9 PM (complimentary champagne and hors d'oeuvres), doors open to the public 11 PM, cardholders \$7, guests \$10, general admission \$12. Entertainment by Cynthia Manley and Greg Stone; plus DJ Steve Smith.

- Dancing in the Dark: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10-\$12. The long-running off-Broadway suspense comedy in its West Coast premiere. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

- Bad Seed: stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. The Acme Famous Players present a horror melodrama by Maxwell Anderson produced and directed by Phillip R. Ford and starring Tippi, Miss X, Doris Fish, Sandal Hebert, Jack Rikess, Lori Naslund, David Van Chaney, Larry Wilson, and Phil Mangano. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

- Ladies Against Women: an evening of consciousness lowering with the Plutonium Players, Victoria Theatre, 16th and Mission sts., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8-\$12. Call 863-7576, 763-8163, or 762-BASS for tickets.

- The Seven Descents of Myrtle: stage performance, Next Stage, Trinity Church, Bush and Gough sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$11. S.F. Actors Theater presents the West Coast premiere of a rarely seen play by Tennessee Williams. Call 524-1306 for tickets.

- 1987 Holiday Show: presented by the River Repertory Theater, Jenner Playhouse, Hwy 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, 8 PM, \$6. Call 865-2905 for more information.

- Lucie Blue Tremblay: music, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, concert begins 8:30 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale.

- Jennifer Berezan: music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale.

- Menno Merring Quartet: music, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for reservations.

- Sing-A-Long: with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.

- Dick Freguilla: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- Stanford Lesbian and Gay Alumni Club of San Francisco and Stanford Gay and Lesbian Business Association: joint holiday season cocktail buffet and get-together, Phoenix Inn, Larkin at Eddy, S.F., 6 PM, \$15. Hosted bar (beer, wine, and soft drinks) and a light buffet. Call 824-2055 or 626-3754 for more information.

- Black and White Men Together: Christmas cookie bake, 7:30 PM. Call 482-3347 for more information.

- X-TA-C Cross Country Ski Club: Christmas potluck, 7-10 PM. Call 931-1158 for more information.

- Church of the Secret Gospel: worship service, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 PM. Males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SATURDAY 12

- The Ninth Winter Celebration of Craftswomen: The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 10 AM-4 PM, admission charge. Call 431-1180 for more information.

- Trocadero Transfer: 10th anniversary celebration, 520 4th St., S.F., 9 PM, cardholders \$10, guests \$12, general admission \$15. Entertainment by Jeanie Tracy and Scherie Payne; plus music by Robbie Lesley, lights by Greg Fleming, and visuals by Cameron Brown.

- Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale: holiday concert, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6 in advance (tickets at Headlines), \$8 at the door. The music of Dunstable, Poulenc, and Vaughan Williams, plus traditional carols.

- The Pacific Chamber Singers: holiday concert dedicated to Erwin Flath (see Friday listing for details).

- Dinosaurs Surviving The Crunch: stage performance, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Starring Sandy Van as Kate, Tallulah, Marlene, and Carol. Call 621-6766 for reservations.

- Bad Seed: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- Ladies Against Women: an evening of consciousness lowering with the Plutonium Players (see Friday listing for details).

- Dancing In The Dark: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- The Seven Descents of Myrtle: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).



The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale gives its holiday concert Dec. 11, 12, and 13
(Photo: Savage Photography)

- 1987 Holiday Show: presented by River Repertory Theater (see Friday listing for details).

- Judi Friedman: music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4-\$6 sliding scale.

- Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band: ragtime holiday ball, Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. With ragtime dance lessons and a cakewalk contest.

- Mark Levine: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- Friends For Friends: beer bust and buffet benefit, S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St., S.F., 6-10 PM, admission one new Christmas present or cash donation. With Danny Williams, Leigh Taylor, Naomi True, and Deena Jones.

- Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: holiday open house, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 1-4 PM, refreshments. Call 626-7000 for more information.

- Girth and Mirth Club of San Francisco: holiday party, 39 Hollywood Ct., S.F., 7:30 PM, refreshments. Call 334-5971, 820-2597, or 552-1143 for more information.

- Western Star Dancers: beer bust, S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St., S.F., 3-6 PM, \$7.

- Mediterranean Lesbians and Gays: potluck, 7 PM. Call 775-6143 for more information.

- Hortiphiles: walking tour of garden attractions in Golden Gate Park, 11 AM. Call 325-7212 or 793-6627 for more information.

- San Francisco MCC: sidewalk sale, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 9 AM-6 PM.

- Western Star Dancers: garage sale, 225 Sanchez St., S.F., 9 AM-6 PM.

- Different Spokes/San Francisco: Marin Headlands ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 10 AM. Helmets requested, rain cancels. Call 731-4050 for more information.

- San Francisco Hiking Club: Briones Regional Park hike. Meet under the big Safeway sign at Market and Dolores at 9:30 AM (East Bay hikers call 845-1033 for meeting time and place). Dress warmly and bring lunch and water; rain cancels.

- San Francisco FrontRunners: Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

- Different Spokes/San Francisco: decide and ride. Meet at 1 PM at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F. to decide on a ride.

- Living With AIDS: one-day seminar, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 9 AM-5 PM, \$10-\$25 sliding scale. Led by Tom O'Connor; call 626-0469 for more information.

- Surviving and Thriving With AIDS: workshop, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 3 PM. With Rev. Steve Pieters. Worship service follows at 5 PM; reception for Rev. Pieters at the pastor's home (4617 18th St.) at 6 PM.

- Church of the Secret Gospel: phallic fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 8 PM-1 AM. Males 18+ welcome. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SUNDAY 13

- San Francisco MCC: Christmas concert, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 PM, free. The church's choir, with strings and organ, will sing music of the season; refreshments follow. Call 863-4434 for more information.

- Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale: holiday concert, Sausalito Presbyterian Church, 4 PM, \$6 in advance (tickets at Headlines), \$8 at the door. The music of Dunstable, Poulenc, and Vaughan Williams, plus traditional carols.

WEEK

• Fish-Ford X-Mas Extravaganza: Channel 181, 181 Eddy St., 11 PM, cover. Doris Fish and Phil Ford in X-Mas epics through the ages. Call 771-2393 for more information.

• Twelve Nights Of Christmas: music with Mikio Hirata, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM.

• Ninth Winter Celebration of Craftswomen: The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 10 AM-4 PM, admission charge.

• Dreamland: DJ Ron Baer back by popular demand, 715 Harrison St., S.F., 4 PM to midnight, \$5. Lights, lasers, and neons by Greg Fleming. Call 824-6151 for more information.

• Dancing In The Dark: stage performance, 3 PM (\$10) and 8 PM (\$10-\$12), (see Friday listing for details).

• Ladies Against Women: an evening of consciousness lowering with the Plutonium Players, 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).

• 1987 Holiday Show: presented by River Repertory Theater, 2 PM (see Friday listing for details).

• Pago de: music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$3.

• Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson: music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

• Ward 5-B Staff Christmas Party: Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-10 PM. Hosted wine and beer bar, hors d'oeuvres, dancing. Call 788-8377 for more information.

• Supreme Court CD Reunion: San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 3 PM. Sponsored by the Non-compliance Project and the National March CD Committee.

• Friends For Friends: benefit beer bust, Pilsner Inn, 225 Church St., S.F., 3-6 PM, \$5 or new Christmas present.

• Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: holiday party for older gay men (60+) and friends, Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 PM, bring food to share or donate towards expenses (baked ham provided). Door prizes and games. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee: general membership meeting, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 5 PM. Call 647-FREE for more information.

• High Tech Gays: monthly meeting, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, dinner 6:30 PM.

• San Francisco FrontRunners: Phoenix Lake run. Meet at 81 Magnolia Ave., San Anselmo, at 10 AM. Monthly meeting and potluck will follow the run. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

• Different Spokes/San Francisco: Twin Peaks and Lake Merced ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 10 AM. Helmets requested; rain cancels. Call 387-7514 for more information.

• Gay Volleyball: playground at Petro Jr. High, 19th and DeHaro, 11 AM.

• Different Spokes/San Francisco: decide and ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM to decide on a ride.

• Tsunami Masters Swim Team: practice, King Pool, Third and Carroll sts., S.F., 10 AM to noon. Call 285-5659 for more information.

• Western Star Dancers: garage sale (see Saturday listing for details).

• Tool For Healing: workshop with artist Joseph Durant, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F., 1-5 PM, \$18 (includes art materials). Sponsored by the AIDS Healing Alliance. Call 824-2016 for more information.

• San Francisco MCC: morning worship and holy communion with Rev. Steve Pieters, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM. Christmas potluck at 5:30 PM.

• Integrity: high mass in Advent season, St. John's in the Mission, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM.

• Affirmation: gay and lesbian Mormons, group discussion on "Handling Added Stress of the Holidays," San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 PM.

TUESDAY 15

- Twelve Nights Of Christmas: music with Menage, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 431-0253 for reservations and more information.
- Gay Men's Sketch Class: last class of 1987, 1229 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM, \$10. Scott O'Hara will model. Space is limited. Call 621-6294 for more information.
- Black and White Men Together: AIDS awareness meeting, 630 Fillmore St., Apt. 201, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 431-8333 for more information.
- Slightly Older Lesbians: discussion group, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7-9 PM. Cindy Shapira, Ph.D., will speak on "Dealing With Holiday Stress."

WEDNESDAY 16

- Country Christmas II: presented by Mr. and Miss Gay S.F. Michael and Trixie, and Mr. Financial District Marty Moon, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3 or a bag of canned food. Sissy Spacek will MC, entertainment by the Foggy City Dancers. To benefit the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank and the AIDS Emergency Fund.
- Twelve Nights Of Christmas: music with Leslie Ann Sorci, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 431-0253 for reservations and more information.
- Male Strippers: Bench & Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 9:30 PM. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- Live Comedy: Bernal de Janeiro Room, El Rio, 158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 PM, \$2. Marga Gomez will MC.
- Judy Hall: open mike cabaret, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for reservations.
- Dancing In The Dark: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Gay Artists and Writers Collective: meeting. Call 431-2527 for more information.

THURSDAY 17

- Joan Baez and Friends: A Christmas Concert: music, Warfield Theater, 982 Market St., S.F., 8:45 PM, \$20. With Joan Baez, Jerry Garcia, Mimi Farina, Linda Tillery, Emmitt Powell and the Gospel Elites, the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus, and the Lesbian and Gay Chorus. Scott Beach will MC. Tickets at all BASS outlets. To benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.
- Twelve Nights Of Christmas: music with Katibelle Collins, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 431-0253 for more information.
- Feathers and Flesh: revue, N'Touch, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- Bad Seed: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Ah, Men: S.F. male cabaret showcase, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, no cover. Call 621-6766 for more information.
- Dancing In The Dark: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Frameline Presents: television on cable channel 25, S.F., 8 PM. Bright Eyes, chronicling the sensational approach the media takes towards AIDS, concludes, followed by Lifestyle Update, a videotape from the March on Washington.
- Black and White Men Together: Christmas potluck and awards ceremony, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7 PM, bring a dish or \$5. Call 931-BWMT for more information.
- Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: holiday party with the National Association for Lesbian and Gay Gerontology, 30th Street Senior Center, 225 30th St., S.F., 6 PM. Bring refreshments to share. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators: monthly meeting, 655 14th St., S.F., potluck 6:30 PM, meeting 7:30 PM. Call 864-4099 or 285-5078 for more information.

MONDAY 14

• Twelve Night Of Christmas: music with Aldo Bell, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 431-0253 for reservations and more information.

• Fish-Ford X-Mas Extravaganza: Channel 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 11 PM, cover. Doris Fish and Phil Ford in X-Mass epics through the ages. Call 771-2393 for more information.

• Worried Well Group: meeting, Rest Stop, 134 Church St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free. Conducted by Rev. Ed Wright. Sponsored by Golden Gate MCC. Call 621-REST for more information.

• Leathermen's/SM Support Group: meeting, Room 21, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-6160 for more information.

• S.F. Jacks: Zamenhoff Night, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$5.

• Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders: support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.



Jeanie Tracy will be part of the Troc's 10th anniversary Dec. 12
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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Peter Travers, PEOPLE MAGAZINE

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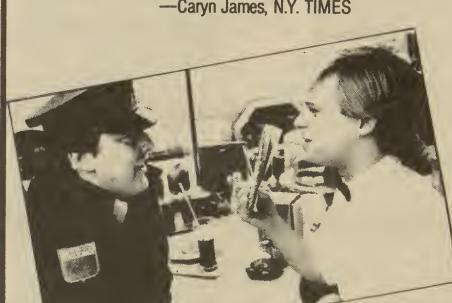
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gay-OK Entertainment

From The Washington Sisters to Ron and Paul to Danny to Darling Mona

by Will Snyder

Vignettes from a weekend of entertainment:

"...Apartheid is here in America, too..."

One look up the hill where Lone Mountain Auditorium sits reminds one of the lavish sets from *Lost Horizon*. The steps wind around like crazy. But there's beauty all along the way with the greenery, the marble benches and the staircase-like atmosphere.

If a person can survive that trip up the hill, uplifting music should be the reward. Friday night's concert at the University of San Francisco, for the most part, provided the reward.

Romanovsky and Phillips was the more recognizable act in this benefit for the Community United Against Violence and the Anti-Violence Project of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force. But many people in the near-sellout crowd found themselves wanting just as much of the Washington Sisters.

Sharon and Sondra Washington, sisters in real life and lesbians as well, brought a perfect blend of entertainment and enlightenment. Not only could

they offer up a potluck-type musical menu of a cappella, reggae and blues, but they could also bring the audience lyrics with some meat, too.

They talked of apartheid and why people should be aware of how one person's oppression (e.g. South Africa) bears a similarity to another person's oppression (e.g. a gay person in the United States). Sharon and Sondra talked of oppression in the grand tradition of social activist music.

Romanovsky and Phillips also brought back memories of social activist music. They blended their melodies in the style of Simon and Garfunkel, and had biting humor as well.

Their music spoke often and knowingly of the humor and unpredictability of gay relationships. This is an area where Ron and Paul should be treasured by the lesbian and gay community. They are talented enough to make much more of a name for themselves than has already happened. They could be mainstream.

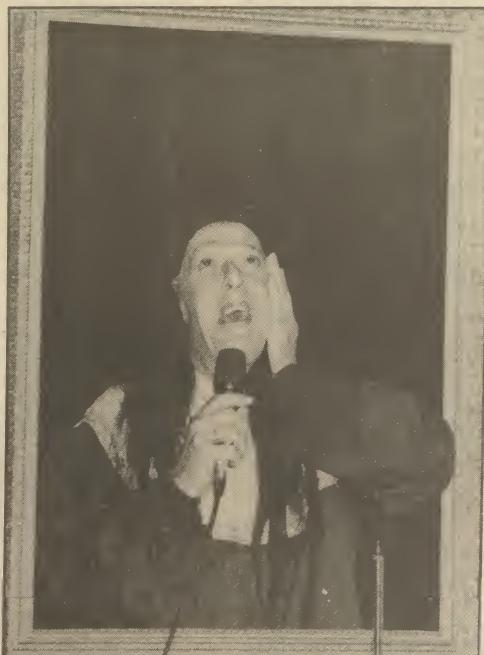
But their lyrics talk of gay lovers with pride. Don't expect a Casey Kasem special on Ron and Paul too soon.

Whatever you do, though, support them at their concerts and at the record shops. They'll bring a little slice of life into your life.

"...That bitch! This contest was rigged..."

Now how could anyone hate a face like Don Johnson's?

Don played the little ol' lady from Oklahoma who won the honors of "Queen For A Day" Saturday at the Music Hall. For



Michael Greer emotes as Mona Lisa

(Photo: Rink)



Don Johnson answered the queries of Danny Williams on the way to his Queen For A Day title
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

awhile, some folks speculated that Don's title might join the Edsel in the Smithsonian, but a funny finale might give Joseph Taro's newest production a chance for reproduction.

The show was designed as a blatant takeoff on the old NBC-TV show of the 1950s and 1960s when dowdy housewives told Jack Bailey their tales of woe and won prizes for their misery. Taro's show was played for comedy with Danny Williams cast as the second coming of Bailey.

Williams caught most of Bailey's flavor while throwing in a bit of his own. However, he could have used a better script. Sometimes the comedy was weak. And, there was another problem in that it was difficult to hear some lines because of either bad acoustics or microphones held too closely to mouths.

But Johnson made up for it. The ten contestants not only had to tell their terrible fates, but they also had to perform. Johnson's "specialty" was a Jello mold

made up of one package of gelatin, a ten-pound sack of sugar, a fifth of scotch and a topping of multi-colored marshmallows.

Before running to Safeway for the ingredients, the audience used a voice vote to pick the "Queen For A Day." In a runoff vote, Johnson, Gary Larson-like glasses, dumpy house dress, Aunt Bea demeanor and all, won out over Deena Jones.

Only Michael Angelo, who was hilarious as a leather nun, voiced a "complaint." But it had to be a fake complaint.

Who in Heaven's name could be nasty to Aunt Bea?

"...yes, his face rings a bell..."

Michael Greer has made many friends in this town over the years. When old friends talk about this super talented comedian, they still marvel at all he can do with an audience.

Sunday's matinee performance at Kimo's was a perfect example. His accompanist, Wayne

Moore, had to leave San Francisco early for another engagement. Thus, Michael was forced to go solo.

But there he was, working the crowd with new jokes and old jokes and jokes about local gay businesses and businesspeople he has been familiar with for years. He was on the stage for an hour and a half without a break. He was sensational.

The house was full on Sunday. Unfortunately, the week-long gig at the Polk Street bar was, according to reports, disappointing. As mentioned before, Michael's friends were there. But one senses that a younger generation of gays is missing out on this talented man and that is a shame.

He opened on Tuesday, Dec. 1 to what was essentially a birthday party for Sweet Lips, a long-time friend. Sunday's finale was, unlike some of the other shows, packed. Much of the crowd was made up of people Michael has known for years and they roared

(Continued on page 28)



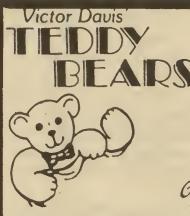
Michael Angelo wanted to be Queen For A Day but didn't quite pass muster
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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MOVIES

The Boys In The Gym



A scene from *Broken Noses*

by Steve Warren

Broken Noses, at the Castro this week, is as close to kiddie porn as you can legally get these days. For 75 minutes you ogle the chests of 12 boys, aged 10 through 16, and their 25-year-old boxing coach, Andy Minsker. Minsker's the one with the facial hair.

This isn't your ordinary documentary about peccy and violence. There is no violence, in fact. No one lands a solid punch in any of the boxing footage, the total of which runs less than one long wrestling match between Minsker and one of his older boys on the living room floor.

It's all perfectly innocent, of course, but I'll be damned if I can figure out an innocent explanation for it. Or the scene at the beach where Minsker lies surrounded by his boys, all touching but not getting physical, and he describes his first sexual experience.

The pose, and probably the discussion topic, can be attributed to debuting director Bruce Weber, the fashion photographer famous for catching hot men in their Calvins.

The only underwear seen in *Broken Noses* is a pair of Jockey shorts with a photo of Minsker's girlfriend on the crotch. As he strips to reveal them and Weber zooms in dizzily (if the camera had a tongue, it was hanging out), Minsker also displays the \$100 bill he was bribed with for the shot. The way he acts the rest of the time, you'd think Weber had to pay him to keep his clothes on!

You've probably heard the story of the film's genesis by now. Weber was photographing potential Olympic athletes and a Navy man told the boxing federation he was forced to pose in "a very small old-fashioned bathing suit." They stopped the rest of their boxers from posing, but Minsker was excited by what he heard and approached Weber anyway, saying, "They told me that I was forbidden to come meet you. They said that you'd give me a weird haircut and make me wear skimpy see-through clothes, and who knows what else you'd do to me, and I thought, that's all I needed to hear. I'm on my way."

The outrageousness of that story is typical of the entire film, but if you just go for sensationalism you'll be bored and

disappointed by long stretches of conversation between Minsker and his parents, his stepparents and his coach's family. Even here some odd things happen. We hear first from his stepmother how his father got custody of the children when Andy was eight because they had been beaten by their stepfather with a rubber hose after the stick he was using broke.

Later we meet the stepfather, who says, "A little pain does character." Andy talks of "kicking their asses" when his boys need it, and says he and his siblings never got their asses kicked unless they deserved it. He apparently harbors less resentment for his stepfather than for his father, who only hugged him twice as he was growing up.

In one of the few scenes for which Minsker wears a shirt—a black t-shirt in this case—Weber shamelessly gets him to read from *Richard II* in a rose garden! This is one mindfuck of a movie.

Remember that girlfriend whose image we saw over the outline of Minsker's dick? He tells us how his roommate, "a

classic womanizer," tried to hit on her after he'd been seeing her for a year. We never meet the roommate and this domestic problem is never resolved. Nor do we ever meet the girlfriend. No one promised you dramatic structure. No one promised you a rose garden, either. That was a bonus.

Although much of the photography betrays Weber's background by keeping bare-chested boys in the foreground, the casual home-movie quality reveals a loose Bruce we weren't expecting.

Minsker obviously loves attention, and he says he likes the admiration and respect the boys show him. We can speculate until doomsday about what else he likes. Sometimes it's a real thin line that separates a big brother from a daddy.

★★★
Broken Noses
Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
Dec. 11-17
Call 621-6120 for details

Karr

(Continued from previous page)

For instance, while the heart of the play is a view of the changing status of black women, the dramatic thrust comes from a man's inability to accept such change and not be threatened. He's handicapped by a background which hasn't provided for this.

But to struggle out from under the crippling weight of racism, he'll have to see himself beyond "all that nigger shit" that's been dumped on him. Read that as "all that homoshit,"

and you'll experience his struggle to be a man beyond color or sexuality.

It makes for immediate theatre, even in a slightly high-pitched production. The "Syl" of Tom W. Jones II was a bit TV-glib for my tastes, but the play, and the rest of the cast, are winning. Attractive Ruth Green is the young wife—her business partner is a gay man who unfortunately never appears on stage, but whose mention pushes her husband's homophobic buttons.

At the Waterfront Theatre through January 10 (885-2929).

after the star became sick.

Greer deserves to play before crowds bigger than just gatherings of old friends. He deserves a chance to make new friends.

As Mona would say, "Now stop this!!!"

**Gay People Make
a Gay Paper.**

'The Last Emperor' Was a Queen!

by Steve Warren

Two hours and 40 minutes is not long enough to relate all the facts about Pu Yi, China's last emperor. In considering what to omit, if you want to reach a mass audience and have your script approved by the current regime of the People's Republic, it's probably best not to mention that Pu Yi was gay.

That item is left between the frames of Bernardo Bertolucci's stupendous epic *The Last Emperor*. The director and his co-screenwriter Mark Peploe have included but simplified a lot of complexities in this mammoth detailing of nearly 60 years of 20th-century Chinese history without sacrificing entertainment value. Sinophile is one of the few things I've never been called, but I was totally fascinated.

Pu Yi began his three-year of official reign in 1908 at the age of three, and lived as emperor in (then) Peking's Forbidden City, as the walled area containing the palace is known, for 16 years. "The only man who can live (in the Forbidden City) is the emperor," he is told by the empress dowager who seats him on the throne. "These other men aren't real men. They're eunuchs."

Indeed, Pu Yi spends his formative years surrounded by women and more than a thousand eunuchs. Of course he turned out gay! When he's about 13 we see him taking sensual delight in being touched through a hanging sheet by a dozen or so young men.



Richard Vuu as the young Pu Yi in *The Last Emperor*

At about the same time he is introduced to a British tutor, Sir Reginald Johnston (Peter O'Toole), in a scene right out of an all-male production of *The King and I*. A couple of years later Pu Yi picks a wife from a set of photographs, but is forced to take another woman, Wan Jung (Joan Chen), as empress, with his choice in the secondary but still-legal role of consort. "Why did you never get married, Johnston?" he asks his tutor. "Oh . . ." Johnston replies evasively. It's not time for that lesson yet, but in another scene Victor Wong's character is introduced as Johnston's "friend" [emphasis added], the poet and scholar Chen Pao Shen.

In bed with both wives while revolution brews outside, Pu Yi (at last played by star John Lone) says, "I used to play a game with the eunuchs, trying to guess who is who." He dives under the silk sheets, leaving us to guess who's doing what to whom, but they all seem to be having a good time.

Finally leaving the Forbidden City, Pu Yi becomes westernized in Tientsin, where he and Wan Jung are known as Henry and Elizabeth. In a scene that shows how far Bertolucci will go to keep from being blatant, Pu Yi sings "Am I Blue" at a party. That is, he sings all but one line, switching to a Bing Crosby-ish scarf where the lyrics should ask, "Was I gay, 'til today?"

Enter Eastern Jewel (Maggie Han), Pu Yi's cousin. Wan Jung complains of being friendless

and the leather-clad Eastern Jewel says, "I'll be your friend," brandishing her opium pipe like a dildo. As if this were a Hollywood film the dyke turns out to be the villain of the piece, the pusher who makes an opium addict of Wan Jung. The most intimate act we see them in is toe-sucking (Eastern Jewel active, Wan Jung passive), but we get the idea.

Politics aside, if China had waited for Pu Yi to produce an heir, he would still have been *The Last Emperor*. I haven't read it, but a biography by Arnold J. Brackman, also called *The Last Emperor*, reportedly goes into detail about Pu Yi's homosexuality.

This gay perspective adds additional interest to a film that has enough already. You'll appreciate it more if you bone up on Chinese history in advance, but the screenplay, while somewhat sketchy, has fewer holes than Tom Stoppard's script for Steven Spielberg's *Empire of the Sun*, the season's other China-filmed epic, which takes almost as much time to cover a lot less territory a lot less well! •

*

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Illustration & graphic design by Daniel Ross • Design Consultant Dick Collier Jr



Hopeless Romanticism

Their birthdays invite comparison: Verdi's *La Traviata* received its world premiere in Venice on March 6, 1853; Gounod's *Faust* received its world premiere in Paris six years later, on March 19, 1859. Although the dramatic action of these two operas is set in different countries, different centuries and vastly different societies, ever since their first performances, each has become a staple of the operatic repertory.

Why? First of all, because these two works contain some of the operatic literature's most popular hit tunes. Second, because their stories are taken from solid dramatic sources (Alexandre Dumas' play entitled *La Dame Aux Camélias* and Goethe's dramatic poem about the aging German scholar who sold his soul to the devil). Each opera also invokes a popular form of morality with regard to the loss of a woman's virginity: Verdi's Violetta cannot escape her checkered past; Gounod's Marguerite must depend on a miracle of faith in order to redeem her soul from the evil doings of Faust and Mephistopheles.

In today's jaded American society (where the forces of gross materialism and fast food sex are now starting to exact a frightening toll) *La Traviata* and *Faust*—which concentrate so fiercely on the costs of losing one's virtue and social standing—continue to exert a startling hold on operatic audiences. While there are many reasons why these two works



Soprano Nelly Miricioiu and tenor Francisco Araiza were the impassioned young lovers in the San Francisco Opera's new production of Verdi's *La Traviata*.

should have such strong appeal to the masses (each offers a good costume show, a modest amount of suffering and some highly hummable tunes) the bottom line

is that at the heart of each opera—it's music, plot and characters—one finds a solid core of romanticism which has steadfastly kept its appeal for at

least 125 years.

If you think the sheer force of tenacity has nothing to do with the making of a classic, then ask yourself this simple question: Whatever happened to Sam the Sham and the Pharaohs?

WITHERING ON THE WINE

This fall the San Francisco Opera unveiled a new production of *La Traviata* which was long overdue. Although John Conklin's designs may have been aimed at inducing a claustrophobic atmosphere which would highlight the drama, his sets often left me with the feeling that this new production was sculpted in such a manner that it would become, above all other considerations, rentable to other opera companies. Conklin's reduced stage frame worked best in the Act I and Act III party scenes, where one had a sense of lavish interiors in decent-sized rooms (as opposed to the usual period furniture plopped down on a stage the size of a football field). I particularly admired Conklin's Act II set for Violetta's country house; one of the best-executed concepts for this act I have seen in recent years.

Most of the production money was obviously spent on David Walker's opulent costumes for the women; period masterpieces which will retain their glory for many years to come. However, the one line item in this new production which totally confounded me was the casting of mezzo-soprano Heather Begg as Flora. This

struck me as an expensive artistic indulgence for a bit role which could have been cast at far lower cost with an American singer. I'm quite certain that, had Terry McEwen chosen to do so, his new production would not have suffered the slightest diminution in artistic strength.

Although many complained that this *Traviata* was deadly slow and poorly sung, at the matinee performances which I attended the principals' work was nowhere as execrable as had been reported to me from those who attended the opening night. While Andrew Meltzer adapted some excessively slow tempos, his choice reflected a heightened understanding of the theatrical content at hand. Some of Meltzer's percussive stresses in Act III, though shocking, were entirely appropriate to the dramatic moment. This was one occasion where the enthusiastic boozing generated by most of Meltzer's appearances on the podium might not have been fully justified.

Of the three principals, I was most impressed by Francisco Araiza's boyishly impulsive Alfredo. Juan Pons' Germont, though solidly sung, proved to be a stock portrayal which could have been phoned in to any production. Soprano Nelly Miricioiu delivered a carefully crafted portrayal of Verdi's Heroine, frequently acting up a storm (a visual factor which compensated for her occasional pitch problems and difficulties with the Act I floriture). John Copley's sensitive

(Continued on page 36)

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Philip Campbell

Countdown To Christmas

Regular subscription concerts at Davies Hall have been so satisfying lately, I almost forgot the impending holiday crunch. It came as a shock to see the annual designer Christmas trees in the lobbies last Friday. Still, this only means more festive programming for Symphony patrons and a chance to escape the less spiritual aspects of the season. The music of celebration in a gaily decorated hall could help chase those checkbook blues.

In recent weeks, Music Director Herbert Blomstedt completed his presentation of works chosen for recording under the orchestra's new contract. A magnificent Nielsen 5th should make an admirable foil for the highly charged 4th on a forthcoming disc. Selections from composer Paul Hindemith, including a gorgeous Symphony Mathis der Maier, may well rekindle interest in this presently neglected but formerly lionized modern master.

Polish-born Canadian resident Ida Haendel made her belated San Francisco debut with a personal specialty—the stirring Sibelius Violin Concerto. With an international career of great distinction, she proved that at age 62 she still has the full measure of this daunting work.

Russian emigre Viktoria Mullova brought new life to the Sibelius on her dazzling Philips' debut recording, stripping away years of sentimental overkill with a performance of almost frightening virtuosity. Haendel favors a more introspective approach, helping mask an occasionally impure tone and attack. Her per-

formance, like Mullova's, is basically no-nonsense, but she brings an unexpected poignance the younger firebrand avoids.

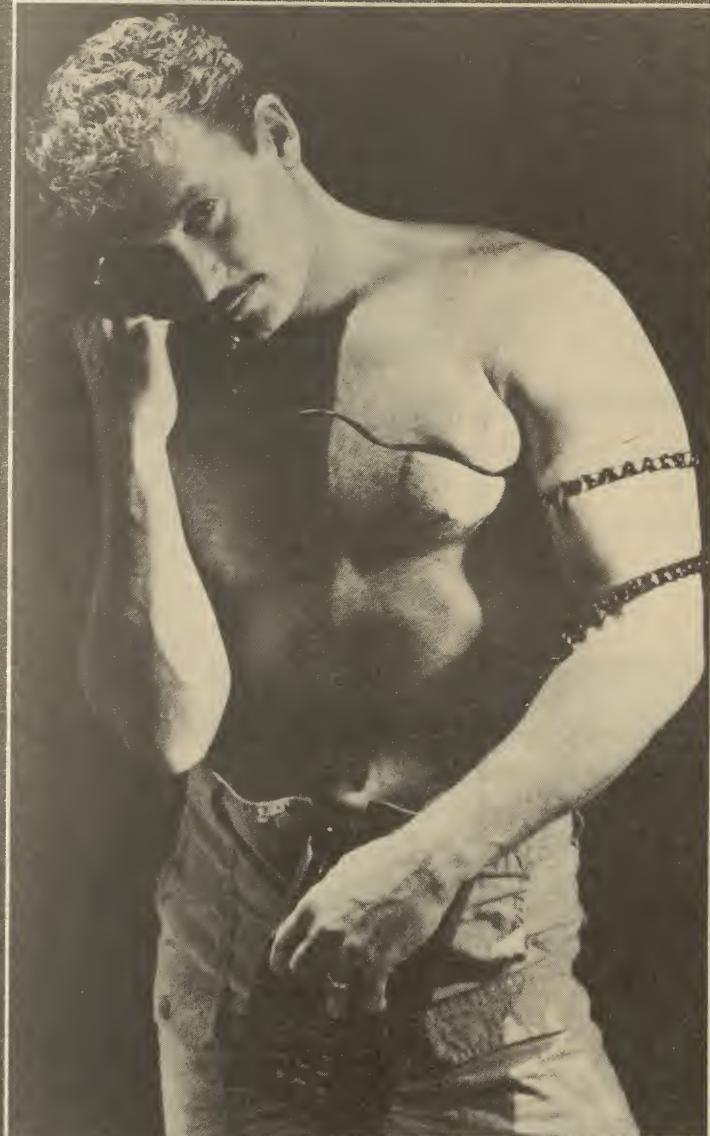
One might prefer the bravura and fresh insights of the younger player, but I wouldn't want to miss the pensive, bittersweet reminiscence of Ida Haendel. It was an altogether triumphant appearance that took many listeners by surprise.

The newly decorated lobbies lent a special atmosphere to last week's series. Vance George's ever-reliable San Francisco Symphony Chorus came through with a sterling rendition of Stravinsky's serious-minded Symphony of Psalms. If orchestral imbalance sometimes marred the introspective singing of the Chorus, it couldn't cover the beautifully produced "alleluias" in the concluding section. The tang of Stravinsky in this solemn piece was captured with subdued good taste, attesting, once again, to George's sensitive understanding and the rapport he enjoys with his singers. The rapt expression on pianist Robin Sutherland's face spoke for the audience as well.

The second half of the bill was given to Bruckner's enormous Symphony No. 7. It is said to be the composer's most popular work and, while I might have some argument with that, it is a truly impressive score. Herbert Blomstedt has already demonstrated his grasp with a well-received recording with the Dresden Staatskapelle, and his command remains intact. His essentially lyrical approach lacks

(Continued on page 36)

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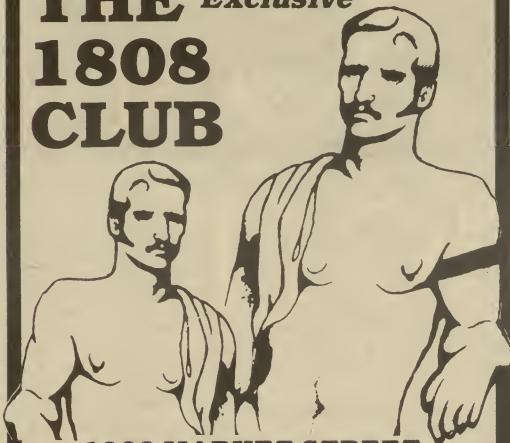
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MICHAEL MARCUS

Ten Cheers For the Troc's Ten Years

Tomorrow night a major South-of-Market event will take place at 520 Fourth St., just a few steps from where South of Market got its notoriety way back in the early 60s with the world's most famous leather bar, The Tool Box. But all that's water over the bridge.

Friday night and Saturday night the Trocadero Transfer will celebrate its 10th anniversary as San Francisco's premiere disco. They'll be celebrating the appearances over the years of such luminous musical stars as Thelma Houston, Freda Payne, the 5th Dimension, Viola Wills, Sylvester, Taka Boom, Pia Zadora, Sharon McNight, Pamela Stanley, Grace Jones, Sarah Dash, Patti LaBelle, Gloria Gaynor, Jo-Lo, Eartha Kitt, Melba Moore, Manhattan Transfer, Martha Reeves, Napata Mero, Mary Wilson, Gail Wilson, the Blazing Redheads, Patti Brooks, and Alicia Bridges.

And all those wonderful party nights: the annual Black Party, the Toga Party, Knights in Black Leather, the White Party,美術家's Ball, Red Hot, Hot Wax, Sylvester's Birthday Party, the Trucker's Party, Uniform Party, Shipwreck Party, Carnavale, In the Heat of the Night, the Monster Party, Heavy Metal, Road Warrior, Us Girls Can Boogie Too, Steam II, Reform School Girls, Under the Big Top, Dance Dance Dance, not to mention several benefits. For many stars, it was a launching pad for careers that are now as bright as the stars in the heavens.

Who can forget the battles Dick Collier had with City of



Caroline Clone and Taylor at Code Blue

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

ficials to get an after-hours license? Until then, at 1:40 a.m. the dancing was over except for the appearance of sporadic dance bars that were more often attended by more cops than disco dollys. Over the years, the Troc has

served as a meeting place for both leather and non-leather dudes and dudettes. Over and over again, rumors were rampant that the Troc was going "straight;" something that never happened, and it is doubtful that it ever will.

Anyway, congratulations to Dick Collier for ten wonderful years, to all the staff and support personnel at the Troc, the bartenders, the light men, and the sound men, and may you see ten more wonderful years. There'll be many wonderful surprises. Friday night, the action begins at 2100. Music by Robbie Leslie, lots of bubbly and dancing 'til you know when. Saturday night, an all-night extravaganza of fun and merriment. You really should be there, you know!

★ ★ ★



Organizers of the fundraiser for Carole Graham at Amelia's last weekend included members of Leather & Blue and a clean and sober group

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Last weekend was eventful. Hundreds of dancers twisted the night away at the I-Beam for the marathon dance party on Sunday. All the major TV channels were on hand and the 11 O'clock News gave good coverage. The total amount raised was not available at my deadline, but you can bet it was considerable, and the heartiest dudes and dudettes were out there twisting the night away.

Thursday night, another South-of-Market bar, the Endup, celebrated its 14th with a fabulous buffet and lots of bubbly. Several of the Buns Calendar contest winners were on hand to autograph the flawless Jim Wigler photos for 1988, and Dexter Devoe of RPPB thrilled the crowd.



They began dancing at two in the afternoon at the I-Beam and they danced and danced until midnight. When the more than 200 dancers had finished, they had raised more than \$27,000 for Mobilization Against AIDS. (Photo: J. Dusch)

Tatiana's show at Kimo's was well attended and the Interclub Fund progressive dinner got a good group going from bar to bar to have a lovely dinner. There was also a good turnout at the Walt Whitman Bookshop for Paul Reed's *Serenity*, and all around the town people were out shopping for the coming Christmas holiday, while the Sisters of PI and Danny Williams wowed 'em at the Rawhide II Sunday night.

Monday night, another hearty group converged on the Comstock Club for a flawless dinner with Tim Curry, star of *Me and My Girl*. The meal was divine and Mr. Curry enthralled the crowd.

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 12/10

Forum Meeting, Chez Mollet, 8 p.m.

Desiree Revue, N' Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

FRIDAY 12/11

Tenth Anniversary Party, Trocadero Transfer, private party for members only 9:11 p.m., doors open 11 p.m. for cardholders \$7, guests \$10, and general admission \$12.

Constantines Serving Connie Dogs, S.F. Eagle patio, Friday and Saturday nights, 11 p.m. - 1 a.m., \$2 (Large and Juicy).

SATURDAY 12/12

Holiday Brunch, Kokpit, 8 a.m., host Mr. LeeOna.

Beer Bust and Buffet, S.F. Eagle, 6-10 p.m., admission one new Christmas present or \$7 cash donation, entertainment by Danny Williams, Deena Jones, and others, benefit Friends for Friends (Christmas presents for people with AIDS or ARC).

Ms. Bunny 1987 Tracy Show, Kimo's, 8 p.m., benefit AIDS Food Bank.

"Dancing The Decade Away" Tenth Anniversary Party Continued, Trocadero Transfer, 10 p.m., admission \$10 cardholders, \$12 guests, and \$15 general admission.

SUNDAY 12/13

Plant Auction, Mint, 2 p.m., benefit Project Open Hand.

Beer Bust, Pilsner Inn, 3-6 p.m., admission one new Christmas present or \$5 donation, benefit Friends for Friends (Christmas presents for people with AIDS or ARC).

Western Star Square Dance Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7.

Twelve Nights of Christmas Show, Galleon, 7:30 p.m., Mikio Hirata.

Ms. Margaret Langevin was in good spirits, but who wouldn't be, celebrating their 79th birthday with such a prestigious crowd! In case you didn't know it, Margaret is one of the AIDS Emergency Fund's best supporters and is at every function (well, practically) they have. The party was a success and Don Johnson (the Tireless One) can chalk up another successful fundraiser. He is incredible!

Needless to say, at my deadline election day was still to come and I hope you all got out and voted in spite of the inclement weather. Whoever wins/won, you can only grin and bear it no matter whom

you supported. After all, we've got to work together to get things done. The political implications after this election are things you will probably read about. But who cares who runs for what? Politics—makes strange bedfellows, indeed.

* * *

It's amazing how many "scams" evolve out of crises. People who prey on AIDS charities and their loyal supporters are despicable. Believe me, they're out there and just about now a few people are doing a slow burn over one such group which was out soliciting donations. They make you feel like a real shirker with their slick con talk. In my opinion, if you want to give your all to just one charity or spread it around, well and good. But for any AIDS agency to let professional fundraisers go out and practically intimidate gay businessmen and

bar owners into donating no matter under what guise (and then cancel an event) is obnoxiously unlawful. Before you get involved in any such scheme(s), it would be best to contact the AIDS Agency for whom the money is supposedly being raised. Fair warning. Don't be a fool!

You haven't heard the end of this one yet!

* * *

The holiday season is fast approaching—yeah, some people are celebrating with gusto already. Herb Hebron is back in the Windy City, renewing old acquaintances, but will return in time for his annual Xmas Party—by invitation only.

Ron Baer and Associates (minus Fred Badelament who went on his "own" again) have a disco party at Dreamland Sun, Dec. 13, from 1600 to Midnight for only \$5.

Colt Thomas decided medicine was not his shtick and packed up his little buggy and moved from Detroit to Mecca. He will be honored at a cocktail party at the home of MEN Video producers Chuck Cyberski and Richard Wright, who have added the former Int'l. Mr. Leather to their staff, this Friday night.

And I've gotta hand it to the office staff at Drummer Magazine. They were eager to point out that I mentioned the 49ers beating the Cleveland Indians, thinking I meant the baseball team, erroneously. If you looked close enough the word was spelled with a Z at the end, and of course, there is no Cleveland Indianz team of anything. But like a lot of things in this galley, it went right over their head(s); presuming more than one didn't catch the intended pun.

And I loved the cover of the (Continued on next page)

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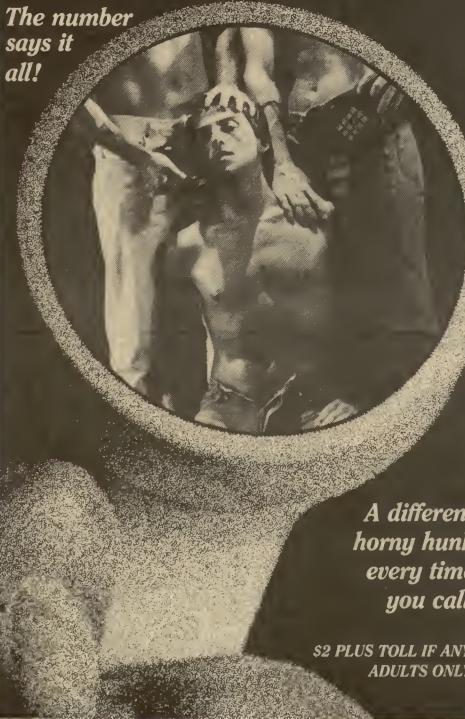
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I'm told Jerry Vallaire is pissed because I didn't mention the Stuff the Jockstrap contest at the Powerhouse. I wonder if he's heard about the latest modern convenience called a telephone? Jeez, how much more money is needed to settle the debts of Up Your Alley productions? By the way, when will we see the public accounting that was promised in the Letters to the Editor column shortly after the Dore Alley Fair? I'll be you a dollar to a donut the telephone will be discovered as soon as this hits the cigarette machines. And I'm waiting. Check back issues of BAR, Mr. Vallaire.

Cheers to "CB," manager of My Place, who defended the honor of Fenemia the Balloon Girl at the Endup last Thursday when some drugged-out freak pushed his hands into the salad dressing and then wiped them off (a huge glob) on Fenemia's new, new gown! CB, your quick action and attitude makes you the hero of the hour! Hi Ken Ferguson, how's your roommate Bill? Fenemia should have thrown those hula hoop earrings on that rude dude!

Mr. Financial District Marty Moon and Mr./Ms. Gay SF 1983 are having a Country Christmas at Sutter's Mill Wed., Dec. 16 for \$3 or a bag of canned food for the AIDS Food Bank and AIDS Emergency Fund. The fun begins at 2000 hours and Sissy Spacek will space out the crowd as the MC. Foggy City Dancers will perform, and there will be other surprises.

★ ★ ★

If you think the leather-women are resting, think again. Our beloved Shadow Morgan's reign as Ms. Leather of SF will come to a close next month already as Ms. Leather of SF II will be chosen Saturday, Jan. 23. Sky Renfrow's committee is hard at work on the project already. We know it will be another great event because Ms. Sky knows what she's doing! Details TBA real soon.



Michele paraded fashions at the fundraiser for Carole Graham at Amelia's last weekend

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

The Cable Car Awards committees are busy too. They'll be out inspecting your holiday decorations, so put on your best show. The Midnight Sun had its Christmas party last Friday evening. The line formed early (around 1700 hours) and the decorations are flawless. Bartender Kim Olson was his usual jovial self and hey, did you know the Dowager Empress Remy works the door checking for (1) minors, (2) False ID, and (3) rowdies. Now that's Butch! Almost as much fun as being in a bike club, isn't it Remy?

Randy Johnson, where are you? Give me a buzz.

Sorry I missed Sweet Lips' 65th birthday party at Ginger's Tool I remember when the Lips was 50, down in the dumps, and eventually became the catalyst of the formation of Operation Concern. OC has changed a lot from its original intention, but then, times change. Anyway, Lips,

Draw a circle on it, cut it out, and give your birdcage a new carpet. Until we clash, er, uh, dish next week, stay out of the bushes, keep your legs crossed, and keep it down to a low roar. You might wake up Mr. Zero and whatever friends he's managed to salvage.

By the way, isn't it only right that if someone donated more than \$100 for you to have dinner with them at a benefit auction that you honor the dinner date? Are you reading this "BB"? •



Code Blue loves a woman in uniform

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Poster Art Sought By International Ms Leather

International Ms Leather, Inc., is currently looking for submissions of artwork which depict a positive image of women in leather. The design chosen out of submissions received will be used on its 1987 posters and t-shirts to promote the Second Annual International Ms Leather Contest. The contest is scheduled to be held Saturday, March 26, 1988 at San Francisco's Giftcenter Pavilion.

Drawings should be black and white and graphically reproducible, 8" x 10" or 16" x 20" and must be submitted matted in shades of grey or light blue. Prior to selection of a winning design, all submissions will be displayed at a showing in San Francisco with non-winning pieces auctioned off afterwards to raise funds for IMsL.

Deadline for submission is Dec. 31, 1987 with determination of winning design in mid-January, 1988. Entries should be sent to: IMsL, P.O. Box 146504, San Francisco, CA 94114. For further information or inquiries contact Joy at 863-9413. •

Sweet Lips

Puttin' On The Lips



Grand Duchess Flame and Grand Duke Tom Roller at the Modesto Coronation

Puttin' On The Titz—yes, that is the name of the fabulous new all-male revue featuring female impersonators and the cabaret guys. It will open Friday the 5th of February at Sutter's Mill. Tickets will go on sale after the 18th of January. With Wally Rutherford as producer, Carl Berry as director, George Lowy as choreographer, and Campert's costume designs, it should be a fantastic show that shouldn't be missed. For more info check with George Lowy at Sutter's Mill.

Wednesday the 16th the Polk Gulch Saloon will hold its 2nd annual staff Christmas party from 8 'til closing with the Gulch Polketties Revue at 9:30 and MCs Grand Duke Tom Roller and Grand Duchess Flame, so don't miss this fun event.

Sunday the 13th the Little Mary Sunshine Show will take place at the Trocadero at 2 p.m. followed by a buffet and dancing, all for \$20. For ticket info contact Tom Roller at 824-2198 or Flame at 775-2198. This is a great show and shouldn't be missed.

Thanks to The Special on Castro Street for jar after jar of pennies for the AIDS Emergency Fund. You are all so "special." Incidentally, Fred Skau informs me that they have gone over the original goal of one million pennies. Thanks Fred and The Gate and all of the wonderful people who helped make this work.

Who is known as Tallulah Banker at what Castro Street bank?

Aunt Charlie's bar on Turk Street will hold its big Christmas party Sunday the 13th from 2 to 7, so drop by and enjoy, right Reba?

The Mr. LeOna and Hal pre-Christmas party will take place Saturday the 12th from 9 a.m. 'til noon with food and fun at the Kokpit, so don't miss this one as Mr. LeOna is going all out.

Gilmores on Hyde and California will hold its Christmas party Sunday the 13th from 5 'til 7, so drop by and wish Charlotte and Peggy and the staff the best.

Ginger's Too's fantastic X-mas decor was done by Don Kunish and Barri with the help of a group of people, and it has turned out just great, so drop by for a drink or dinner and take a look. Incidentally, make your reservations now for Ginger's Too for the gourmet dinner specials to be served Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and of course a great brunch on New Year's Day, so call now. Ginger's Too will be closed Christmas Day.

Kimo's presents Christmas To Be Remembered Wednesday the 16th at 8 p.m. It is being presented by Larrie, so don't miss it as it promises to be great. Of course you realize the showroom has been done over very nicely.

Sutter's Mill will present a Ward 5-B staff Christmas party Sunday the 13th from 6 'til 10 p.m. with a hosted wine and beer bar, dancing, and canapes. The food is being donated by Sutter's Mill and Ginger's Too. There will be a small door charge with the money going to Ward 5-B, so don't miss this one as it promises to be a worthy event for the staff of Ward 5-B, Ward 5-A, Ward 86, and the volunteer staff from Shanti—they deserve it.

Tracy Foster will present a benefit for Toys For Tots at Kimo's showroom on the 15th (Tuesday) from 8 p.m. 'til closing with a toy as the cover charge. There will be food, show, balloon pop, and door prizes—another worthy event not to be missed.

Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco of 1983, Michael and Trixie, and Mr. Financial District 1987, Marty Moon, present Country Christmas II at Sutter's Mill Wednesday the 16th at 8 p.m. Admission is \$3 or a bag of food (canned) with the M.C. being Sissy Spaceout and the Foggy City Dancers providing entertainment. This is a benefit for the S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank and the AIDS Emergency Fund—see you there, Trixie.

Congrats to our new Mr. Cowboy, Mark Eastman, and Ms. Cowgirl, Joey Golly, it seems so long ago since I was Ms. Cowgirl #2.

The hand of friendship returns to Ginger's Too. Stop by for a drink with the Lips and see the hand in action. Quite an interesting toy.

Gay, Lesbian Veggies Plan Holiday Potluck

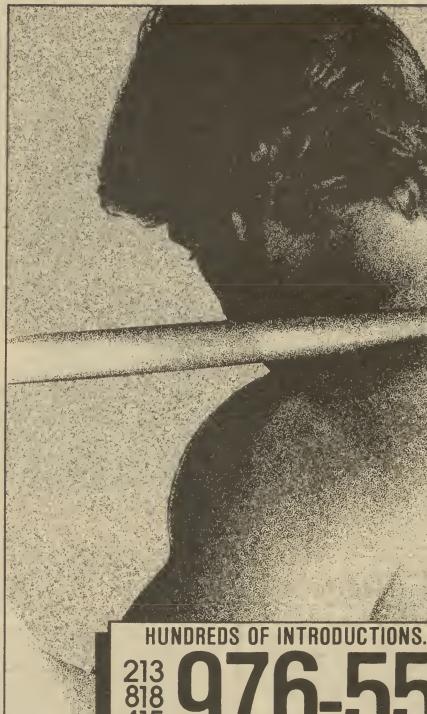
A holiday potluck dinner and get-together will be held Saturday, Dec. 19, at 5 p.m. in San Francisco by Gay & Lesbian Vegetarians.

This will be the fourth gathering of Gay & Lesbian Vegetarians. A vegetarian food dish or a beverage is requested of those attending.

For directions to the dinner or for more information, contact Rick Haze, P.O. Box 7971, Santa Cruz, 95061 (408) 426-7315; or call 626-1351.

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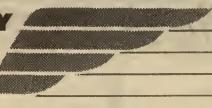
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Robin Sutherland

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

direction, backed by Thomas J. Munn's exquisite lighting helped to frame many dramatic nuances

which are usually trampled by the production schedule of most *Traviata* revivals.

All in all, this turned out to be a highly commendable production of Verdi's opera which I sincerely hope will receive as much loving attention in future appearances as it got from its creative team during the first string of performances this fall.

THE DEVIL'S DARK DOINGS

The artistic merit of San Francisco's new *La Traviata* was easily matched by Lyric Opera of Chicago's revival of Charles Gounod's *Faust*. Using a steeply-raked platform as the main part of its unit set, Pier Luigi Samaritani's production (which was telecast from the Windy City in 1979) was restaged this fall by Antonello Madau Diaz and conducted with loving care by veteran Jean Fournet.

The biggest surprise of the revival became evident during curtain calls, however, when it became abundantly clear that all four principal roles had been magnificently sung by American artists (a triumph of native casting which could never have occurred in Chicago during Carol Fox's administration). Top honors went to Samuel Ramey, who was in peak form as a vocally and physically lithesome Mephistopheles. J. Patrick Rafferty's Valentin was robustly sung; Neil Shicoff's Faust a convincingly youthful characterization despite the tenor's growing tendency to shout his music.

Elsewhere in the cast, Wendy White was a sympathetic Siebel; Corinna Vozza a plump and lusty Marthe Schwerlein. In addition to Ramsey's powerful performance, I was most impressed by Nancy Gustafson's work as Marguerite. This tall and comeable soprano, who was once an Adler Fellow with the San Francisco Opera, continues to blossom into an outstanding artist whose remarkable facial beauty and towering stage presence are backed by a healthy voice and solid musicianship. Gustafson's voice has grown to the point where she now delivers a fully-rounded performance; she is rapidly maturing into a world-class artist whose career bears watching.

Campbell

(Continued from page 30)

the dramatic punch of conductor Herbert von Karajan, but his steady tread and cumulative force is equally inspiring. Navigating the lengthy ruminations and including repeats, Blomstedt shows a mind that sees the big picture, never stooping to vulgar effect.

In coming weeks exhausted shoppers can recharge with Symphony events, including four performances of Handel's *Messiah*, a special celebration with the Symphony Youth Orchestra and Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, *Christmas Pipe Dreams*, featuring the awesome Ruffati organ, and the annual New Year's Eve gala, *A Night in Old Vienna*.

I enthusiastically endorse the charming Vienna spectacular for any couple looking for an alternative to the usual New Year's blowout. Same-sex couples are yearly in evidence, and the old-world grace of the evening is very romantic. It's a little pricey, but favors and lavish refreshments, including wine and champagne, are included.

This Friday and Saturday, guest conductor Andrew Massey of Toronto will lead the orchestra in performances of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Elgar, and a world premiere of Reynolds' *Symphony (Vertigo)*. If the ailing Claudio Arrau has not recovered from his recent bout of flu, Mischa Dichter will probably replace him in the Beethoven 3rd Piano Concerto.

The Band Plays On!

The third annual Christmas Gala and Dance Along Nutcracker will be presented by the San Francisco Band Foundation at the Giftecenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., Sunday, Dec. 20.

Special guest performers already committed to appearing at the Christmas concert include comedians Marge Gomez and Danny Williams. Other entertainers tentatively scheduled are Sharon McNight, Sandy Van, and members of the Physique '87 body building organization.

Reserved seating for this 6 p.m. event is limited, with ticket prices at \$25 and \$20 available through mail order (1519 Mission St., S.F., CA 94103) or through the Foundation box office (621-5619). General admission tickets are \$10 and \$15 and available at Headlines.

The event promises to be an exciting one, with tutu rentals available for those who wish to dance along with *The Nutcracker*, big-band dancing immediately following the concert, and a pre-show penthouse reception (4-6 p.m.) with champagne, catered buffet, special entertainment, and a ticket price of \$100 per couple (includes reserved seating on the main floor).

'Hearts Aglow' Concert Dec. 19

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFGMC) under the direction of Gregg Tallman, will present its Ninth Annual Holiday concerts, traditionally sell-out events, "Christmas is Love: Now Sing with Hearts Aglow," Saturday, Dec. 19 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m., Herbst Theatre, San Francisco.

Tickets, priced at \$10, \$12 and \$15, are available at the Herbst Theatre box office or by calling (415) 552-3656 or (415) 863-8326. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the night of the concert.



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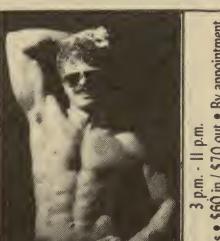
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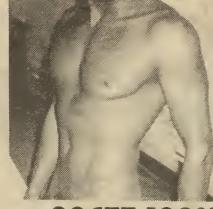
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

BOWLING

'Mother Mal'

Bowling Dynamo Garcia Still Watches Over The 'Flock'

by Richard McPherson

"Mother" is the name by which he is affectionately known. Apropos. After over two decades of working to promote and nurture gay bowling in San Francisco and across the country, Mal Garcia is still watching over his flock.

Mal has been the spearhead behind the formulation of four successful gay leagues at Park Bowl over the past 22 years, all of which still fill up season after season. He has also been one of the main supporters and promoters of the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) for the past five years, now serving as co-chairman of the Finance Committee.

Garcia's work over the years has been acknowledged through the many awards he has earned. In 1982, he received a plaque from the Gay Games I committee for his work as the games' bowling chairman. In 1983 and 1987 he received Cable Car Awards for "Contribution to Athletics" and "Sportsman of the Year—Bowling." Also in 1983 *Gay Sports Magazine* presented him with the "Gay Sports Award."

The ultimate award, though, he feels, is being the recipient of IGBO's "Fellowship Award—1984" for outstanding service toward the cause, growth and perpetuation of the International Gay Bowling Organization. This is an annual award given to two members each year, and the highest award presented by IGBO. Of the 15,000-plus IGBO members, only 14 have been the recipient of this prestigious award.

"I showed up at an IGBO tournament in Seattle (in 1984). I wasn't bowling well and wanted to leave," says Mal, reflecting on the day he received this award. He said that he was there with about 50 other S.F. bowlers and no one would let him depart.



Mal Garcia

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

They knew something he didn't.

"It shocked the hell out of me that I won!" he exclaimed, "I couldn't believe that I got the award so soon. I'd only been a member of IGBO for two years at the time."

IGBO had obviously recognized the genuine sincerity and integrity of this man. He is a hard worker and tends to underplay his contributions.

THE TGL IS FORMED

It all began in 1966 when Mal, then a beginning bowler, joined S.F.'s only gay league at Park Bowl. He wasn't happy with the way the league was run so he decided to start a league of his

own. He put eight teams together and created the Wednesday Tavern Guild League (TGL). In three years he had a full house with 22 teams.

By the early 1980's there was such a demand for more gay leagues that Mal first formed the Monday TGL in 1981 and then the Thursday TGL in 1983. He didn't stop there. At the beginning of this current winter season he created the Tavern Guild Trios, an early evening league, which was so popular that it filled up in three weeks. The four TGL's at Park Bowl comprise a total of 86 teams bowling weekly.

Mal promises that he's not through yet. He is hopeful that

there are more leagues still to come.

Bowling has become an extremely popular sport in the local gay community. It's not uncommon for bowlers to drive from Marin Co., Walnut Creek and San Jose to get their weekly fix of lane play. When speaking with potential new members, regardless of where they live, Mal emphasizes the social aspects of gay league bowling. "The first thing I always hear (when approaching

a non-league bowler about joining a league) is 'my average is not high enough.' I tell them that that doesn't matter, I just say, 'If you're interested in having a good time, join a gay league!'"

And his simple sales approach works. More and more gays and lesbians are joining leagues than ever before, and living miles away from S.F. doesn't seem to matter.

Beyond our own gay bowling community, Mal has spent much

(Continued on page 44)

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Photo: Kirk Ireland

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The Artemis Cafe team at Park Bowl

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

S.F. 2nd at San Diego Volleyball Tournament

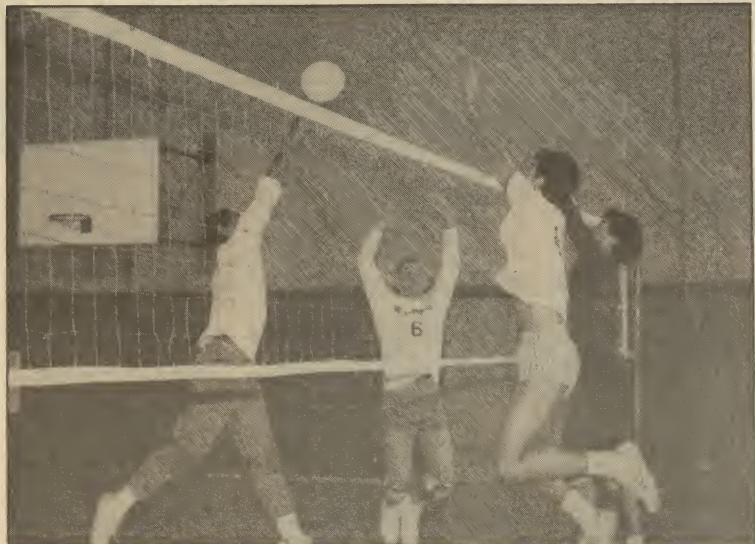
by Rick Thoman

San Francisco's gay men's volleyball team, the City Islanders, staged a stunning comeback drive to finish second at the 11th annual San Diego Invitational Volleyball tournament over the Thanksgiving weekend.

"It was truly a team effort for us to come from behind the way we did," said City Islander Fred Ennis, participating in his 5th San Diego volleyball tournament. "Each player gave everything he had, especially during the final day of play."

The City Islanders found themselves with a 1-5 win-loss record at the end of the first day of the two-day tournament. In spite of that, the San Francisco team maintained a positive, determined attitude, as reflected by player-coach Mike Bulawit: "We knew we weren't out of it. Last year at this tournament we had a 9-1 record at the end of the first day, making us one of the top-seeded teams for the final day of competition. But we couldn't maintain the winning edge the next day and wound up finishing 7th overall. Keeping that in mind, we hoped the reverse would happen to us this year."

The City Islanders found themselves in the strongest section of the opening day's "pool play" for the 12 B-division teams. San Francisco lost their first five games in a row: two to the San Diego Hole Diggers by identical scores of 11-5; then two to an extremely tough Phoenix team by the scores of 11-4 and 11-7; and, in their first game with the Los Angeles Green LAVA team, a late



You can pick up a Volleyball game every Sunday at Collingwood Gym

(Photo: Rink)

surge couldn't hold off a final loss by a score of 12-10.

It took five losses before the San Francisco team finally got fired up. As SF player Steve Moore commented, "We made too many mental errors early on and ended up beating ourselves." However, they came back strong in their final game against the Green LAVA team, shutting them out 11-0.

"We were playing well but we just weren't in rhythm, which is important in a team sport such as

volleyball," Bulawit said. Teammate John McKinney declared, "We played well as a team, but we just weren't dominating." Still, their mood was upbeat going into the final day of play.

The next day the City Islanders showed their stuff, opening with a decisive win over the Los Angeles Slamma Jamma team, 11-8 and 11-4. SF then went up against top-ranked Phoenix, and despite great defensive moves by Leo Amituanai and smart hitting by Steve Moore, SF lost 14-12 in

the first game and the clock ran out in the second game with Phoenix in the lead 9-7.

The loss to Phoenix dropped the City Islanders into the consolation bracket, where they came back strong and downed the San Jose Team 2, 15-6. Next on SF's come back trail was a challenging Long Beach squad who fought hard but bowed to the City Islanders, 15-13.

With virtually no rest, SF was back on the courts with the San Diego Hole Diggers, who had beaten SF twice the day before. But this was a different San Francisco squad, and tired as they were, they came out roaring and won 15-13. Next to fall to the City Islanders was another Los Angeles squad, the Designer B's, who fell by a score of 15-10. With this win, San Francisco suddenly

found themselves in the semi-final playoff round.

SF team captain Gary Edde said the team had been playing "match after match so fast that we didn't know we had placed in the final round for medal contention."

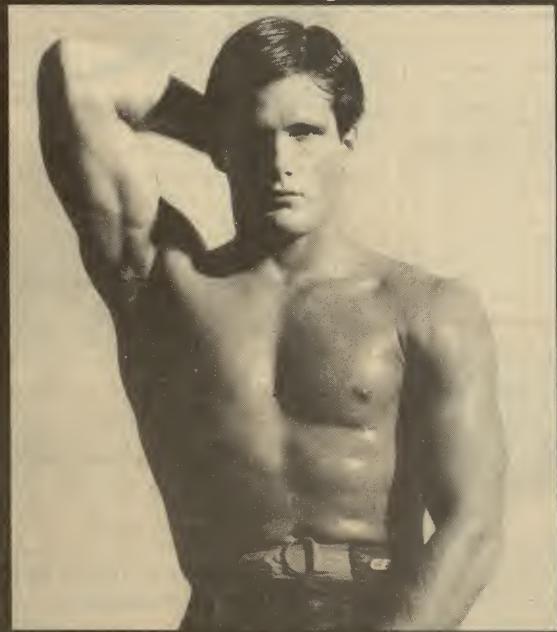
Their last set of the tournament was against the undefeated Phoenix team. The City Islanders were exhausted but determined. In game one, both squads fought hard but Phoenix stayed on top to win 15-10. The SF squad gave everything they had in the next game, handing Phoenix its first defeat of the tournament, 15-11.

In the final match, Phoenix showed off their experience, beating back a last-ditch effort by San Francisco and going on to win 15-11 and the B-division championship.

"We played eleven great games today," said Bulawit. "We all did our part, from the defensive moves of Mark Onasai to the come-through hitting of David Bee. Steve Moore was just super, John McKinney did a great job, as did Lino Afaese, Leo Amituanai, and Fred Ennis. And captain Gary Edde's play was good enough to have him singled out for an All Tournament award. But the important thing is we played well together as a team. Our teamwork, not an individual player, made our comeback a reality."

Bulawit and the rest of the City Islanders are now training for the National Championship meet in Montreal in May. The Islanders are part of the Club Volleyball action that takes place every Saturday at Collingwood Gym at 9:30 a.m. Club Volleyball play is open to the first 21 players who show up. For more information call 731-2056.

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Yes, there is gay Volleyball in San Francisco (Photo: Rink)

Chorus Plans Sing-Along For Xmas Eve

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFCMC) under the direction of Gregg Tallman, will present an old-fashioned Christmas Eve sing-along with excerpts from their Holiday concert, Thursday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Post and Mason Streets.

A nine-year tradition within

the San Francisco community, the Chorus' concert will also feature performances by Men About Town and the Chamber Singers, ensembles of the SFCMC. Finale for the evening will be audience participation in holiday carolling.

Tickets, priced at \$8, are available at the door or by calling (415) 863-8326.

All-Stars and Playoff Dramas

by Lauren Ward

Last week the dramatic semi-final playoff matches served as a prelude to the S.F. Pool Association's most prestigious tournament, the All-Star.

The Betty and Vanna White Swallow teams were seeded second and third, respectively, in the playoffs and were expected to play a close, best-of-three match series to determine who would advance to the Championship finals.

In Tuesday's match, Vanna shocked Betty with a convincing 9-5 defeat. Thursday night's rematch was expected to be a lot closer but Vanna went on to score a crushing 9-4 victory, eliminating their sister team.

Another upset was in progress Tuesday at DeLuxe where the No. 4 seeded Park Bowl Badasses were ahead of the No. 1 seeded DeLuxe Ducks. Despite the outstanding play by the Ducks' Lisa Duncan, the Park Bowl prevailed by a close 9-7 margin to set up the possible elimination of the Ducks in the second match.

Thursday night, the Ducks were clearly struggling, losing the first four games and down 2-6 at halftime. The Ducks then made a dramatic comeback, tying the match at 7-7. After the regulation 16 games the score was tied at 8-8 and each team selected a player for the single game which would decide the match.

In a game which both players, fatigued and under extreme



(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

pressure, missed winning opportunities, it was the Ducks' E.Z. who prevailed over Lynn Westhaven to force the upcoming third match. The winner of that will play a best-of-three series with the Vanna White Swallow for the City Championship.

ALL-STAR RESULTS

The top players in the league gathered at the Cinch on Saturday to play for the individuals championship and players from Thursday's two victorious teams would again figure prominently. The top four finishers will repre-

sent S.F. in individual competition at West Coast Challenge XVI at Long Beach in January. The format was double elimination, race to three.

Finishing fourth was the defending Champion, Walter Moreira of the Vanna White Swallow. His only match losses were to the DeLuxe Ducks' E.Z.

In third place was another of Vanna's star players, Jim Russo. His only defeat was by the Ducks' Lisa Duncan. Secure in his top four position, he withdrew from the tournament.

By the time the finals started, the contest had lasted over eight hours and the fatigue was beginning to show. Lisa Duncan was undefeated and was close to winning her second All-Star Tournament. Her teammate, E.Z., was her only obstacle and she had already defeated him in the winners' bracket semi-final.

With the final match tied at two games apiece, Lisa took aim on the Championship 8-Ball, a long, straight shot. Somehow, the ball rattled in the pocket and failed to fall. E.Z. ran out to force a tie-breaking match.



(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

To battle so long for an elusive goal only to see it snatched away by a slight miscalculation is crushingly disappointing. Disheartened and exhausted, Lisa lost the final match for a second place finish.

As for E.Z., he played like a champion. He was 9-0 before falling to Lisa, 3-2. His overall tournament record was 21-7 and he became the first player to win the All-Star three times in its fifteen season history.

Thanks go out to tournament director, Donna Blow, with an assist from Rick Bradford, and to the gracious hospitality of the Cinch and the White Swallow. Good luck to our representatives in Long Beach.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 12: Rising Star Tournament. Sign up by 11:30 a.m. at the Overpass, 488 Hayes St. 864-6672. Open to those not qualified for All-Star.

Dec. 12: Casino Night: Cafe San Marcos, 2367 Market St., 8 p.m. Everyone invited. Prizes!

Jan. 5, 1988: Awards Party: Upstairs at Amelia's.

Jan. 8-10: WCC XVI: Long Beach.

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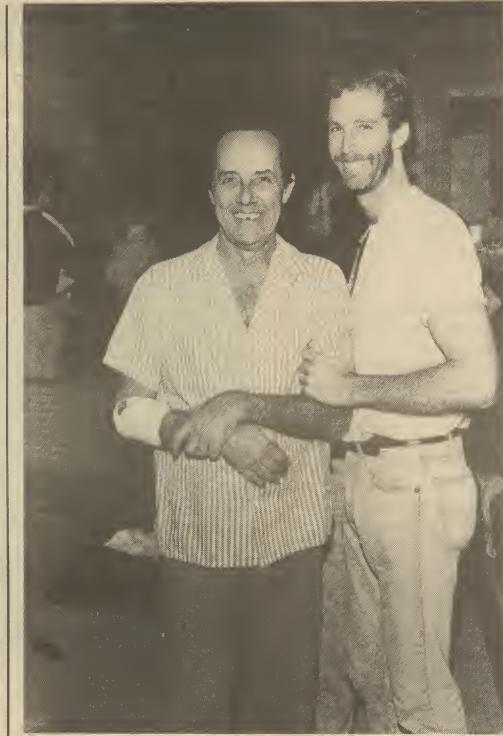
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Mal Garcia with the author (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Bowling

(Continued from page 41)

time promoting IGBO around the country. From the moment he was aware of this organization back in the early 1980's he began his work. "Back in 1982 I went to a major gay bowling tournament in Dallas, Texas and promoted IGBO like crazy. Many bowlers had not heard of it back then," he recalls, "there were only 11 cities which were members of IGBO at that time." IGBO now has 76 gay leagues in its membership, from cities all over the U.S. and Canada.

"My one goal now is to get member leagues in Australia and Paris, France. I've begun the correspondence process and it would be apropos if they were to be voted in at next year's annual IGBO meeting (to be held next May in Washington, D.C.)"

Even though Garcia has always put his major emphasis on the organizational aspects of the sport his own bowling proficiency has continued to develop over the years. The last few seasons he has carried a respectable 170 average, plus or minus a few pins, although at 57 he feels he's starting to slow down a bit.

"I still recall the night I bowled my best series ever, because I was sick as a dog." That was a few years ago at Park Bowl when he shot a 258 game and 640+ series. His most recent gay bowling championship was a few months ago when he won first

place in the No Tap Singles event of the Las Vegas Showgirl Classic. He shot a handicap score of 811 on no tap games of 277, 187, 275.

TREAD SOFTLY

Mal's major emphasis when participating in the sport is to enjoy himself and to be with friends. "If it ceases to be fun, I'll leave it," he remarked pointedly.

When asked why he has worked so hard for the sport for over two decades Mal responds with a smile: "I'm a glutton for punishment." "Mother" is known to have "her" moments, and would be the first to acknowledge "her" bitchy side. Garcia's years of involvement have made him an expert in the rules and running of the sport on all levels. He admits that he sometimes loses his patience with new "upstarts" who join a league and try to make changes and "improvements" before they have a thorough understanding of the game.

When Mal is having one of his "periods" bowlers would be best advised to tread softly in his presence. His bite is never lethal, though, because his heart is deeply embedded in his love for the sport and its participants.

The gay bowling community owes much to this man and secretly hopes that he will continue his work for many years to come. Indeed, every gay sport would be fortunate to have their own Mal Garcia.

Leather Weekend In D.C.

Leather Weekend, the new year's first major event for the leather/levi community, will take place in Washington, D.C. Jan. 15-17. Functions will include a welcoming party Friday and Saturday brunch at the new DC Eagle, and a formal leather buffet and open bar Saturday evening at Tracks DC.

Featured Sunday afternoon will be the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leatherman contest. The winner will represent the region and the Centaur MC at International Mr. Leather, to be held in Chicago in May. Clubs and associations are encouraged to

provide registrants for this contest.

Pre-registration is suggested by mailing a check for \$15 (payable to Centaur MC) to: Centaur MC c/o Rocco, 2210 N. Pickett St., T2, Alexandria, VA 22304. Onsite registration will take place at the DC Eagle (639 New York Ave. NW) Friday from 9 p.m. until midnight and Saturday from noon until 2 p.m. Registration will resume at Tracks DC, (1111 First St. SE) from 6 until 8:30 p.m. Pre-registration for the weekend is to be received by Jan. 4. Special hotel rates are available upon request.

Chanukah!

Sha'ar Zahav Prepares For Holiday

Although Chanukah, the upcoming Jewish holiday also known as the Festival of Lights, is a minor holiday on the Jewish calendar, it is always one of the more festive and playful. On Dec. 20, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, San Francisco's ten-year-old synagogue with a special outreach to gays and lesbians, will create its share of fun and games with its annual Chanukah party.

The event, which will be held from 2-6 p.m. at the Lake Merced Boathouse in San Francisco, is named the "Starlight Excess," and will include a special talent show, music, dreidel-playing (dreidels are Jewish tops with Hebrew letters on them), latkes (potato pancakes) and drinks.

Partygoers can watch the entertainers, play games or donate a service (like foot massages, language lessons or legal advice). They can also participate in the silent auction, light menorahs (the Jewish candelabra that symbolizes the holiday) at nightfall and win the raffle. The congregation is giving

away \$500 (first prize), a microwave oven (second prize) and a display (third prize).

"The party will be great fun for adults and children," says Rosalinda del Moral, the Chanukah Committee chairperson. "It's open to both members and nonmembers. And we encourage everyone to join us." Prices are \$5.00 for members and \$7.00 for nonmembers. All children are admitted free.

Chanukah celebrates the miracle that followed the ransacking of the Jewish temple in the 164 b.c.e. According to tradition, although there was only enough sacred oil left after the pillaging to last one day, the oil miraculously lasted eight days until more holy oil could be obtained. That's why Chanukah is celebrated for eight days and is observed with the nightly lighting of the menorah.

Contact Congregation's Sha'ar Zahav at 415-861-6932 for tickets or to volunteer your talents or services. •



Art Saves Lives

San Franciscan artist Nancy McNally will donate half of the proceeds from a month-long sale of her hand-painted silk scarves for men and women to Project Open Hand. The sale of McNally's scarves and the proceeds from a gala reception on Monday, Dec. 21, from 5 p.m. until midnight at Rami's Caffe, 1361 Church St. in San Francisco, are expected to raise \$5,000 for Open Hand.

The hand-painted silk scarves will be for sale during the month of December at Rami's Caffe. The reception on Monday, Dec. 21, will be attended by local guest artists and Open Hand supporters. The interested public is also invited to attend. A traditional San Francisco bouillabaisse and beer and wine will be served. Tickets are \$10. An original McNally watercolor painting will be raffled during the evening; raf-

fle tickets are \$1.

McNally's hand-painted scarves are priced from \$30 to \$300. Gyotaku (a Japanese technique) Fish Print Aprons with Open Hand's logo will also be available for \$40.

For more information about the sale and to reserve tickets for the reception on Monday, Dec. 21, call 641-0678. •

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